

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON ARRIVAL OF THE P. & O. MESSAGERIES AND PACIFIC MAILS FROM CHINA, JAPAN, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, &c

IN CONNECTION WITH THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS." A WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS.

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OUR DIFFICULTY WITH CHINA.

WITHIN the past few days two telegrams have been received from Shanghai, one through Reuter's Agency, and another from *The Times*' Correspondent at Shanghai. The two telegrams agree in the ominous fact of Mr. WADE having sent a final message to the Chinese Government, intimating that unless his demands are complied with by a certain day he will leave Peking. The only difference relates to the date thus fixed. According to *The Times*' Correspondent the 13th of October was the day named, whereas according to Reuter's telegram Mr. WADE would leave unless his demands were complied with by the 30th September.

Latest AdVICES.

| PORTS | OUTWARD. | | HOMeward. |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|
| | From London. | Arrived out. | Received Sept. 29. |
| JAPAN—Yokohama | July 9 | Aug. 22 | Aug. 24* |
| Yedo | — | — | — |
| Osaka and Hiogo | June 25 | " 16 | " 18* |
| Hakodadi | — | — | — |
| Nagasaki | — | — | " 10* |
| CHINA—Peking | — | — | " 3 |
| Tien-tsin | — | — | " 7 |
| Chefoo | — | — | " 9 |
| Kow-chwang | — | — | " 4 |
| Hankow | " 11 | July 28 | " 20 |
| Kiu-king | — | — | " 10 |
| Chin-king | — | — | " 11 |
| Shanghai | July 2 | Aug. 14 | " 15 |
| Ningpo | — | — | " 11 |
| Poochow | " 2 | " 14 | " 15 |
| Formosa | — | — | " 10 |
| Amoy | — | — | " 17 |
| Swatow | — | — | " 18 |
| Hong Kong | " 9 | " 15 | " 21 |
| Canton | — | — | " 19 |
| Macao | — | — | " 20 |
| PHILIPPINES—Manila | " 2 | " 11 | " 18 |
| COCHIN-CHINA—Saigon | " 16 | " 20 | " 26 |
| SIAM—Bangkok | " 9 | " 14 | " 23 |
| BORNEO—Labuan | — | — | " 18 |
| Sarawak | — | — | " 19 |
| JAVA—Batavia | " 16 | " 19 | " 29 |
| Samarang | — | — | " 23 |
| Sonrabaya | — | — | " 18 |
| MALACCA STRAITS—Singapore | " 30 | " 28 | " 28 |
| Penang | " 23 | " 19 | " 23 |
| CEYLON—Galle | Aug. 13 | Sept. 4 | Sept. 6 |
| Colombo | " 6 | Aug. 27 | " 4 |

* By Pacific mail via San Francisco.

THE MAILS, &c.

The French mail, bringing the above advices from China and the Straits Settlements, was delivered, via Marseilles, on the 29th ult., being five days in advance of its due date. The Pacific mail, with the Japan advices also, reached London, via San Francisco, on the 29th ult. The next inward (P. and O.) mail, with a week's later advices, viz., Yokohama 14th, Shanghai 22nd, Hong Kong 28th Aug., Singapore 5th Sept., is due on Monday next, the 11th inst.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Peiho*, arrived Sept. 27.—From Yokohama: Mr. Aspinall, Mr. Benjamin. From Shanghai: None. From Hong Kong: Mr. Adams, Mr. Wilgard, Mr. Charles, Miss Algar. From Batavia: Mr. Van Hemert, Mr. Van Balzingslowen, Mr. De Lavalette, Mr. Kempe. From Singapore: Messrs. Patcoos, Kallisen, Jalagar, Barnett. From Galle: Mr. Mercer, Mr. Hairland, Mrs. Porquier.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer *Baroda*, from Venice, Oct. 1.—To Batavia: Capt. Eno. Per P. and O. steamer *Baroda*, from Brindisi, Oct. 4.—To Singapore: Miss M. H. Jones. To Penang: Mr. A. Mau. To Ceylon: Mr. J. L. Sim. Per P. and O. steamer *Hydaspes*, from Southampton, Oct. 7.—To Yokohama: Mrs. Goodall. To Shanghai: Mrs. Clark, Rev. J. Hoare. To Hong Kong: Sub. Lieut. H. C. Savage, Com. H. Salmond, Mr. F. H. Chapman, Major and Mrs. W. H. Burton. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Griffin. To Penang: Mr. J. Wilson. To Ceylon: Mr. A. M. White, Mrs. Skinner, Mr. F. D. Watson, Mr. E. B. S. Mercer. To Galle: Mr. W. Scott. Per P. and O. steamer *Malta*, from Venice, Oct. 15.—To Yokohama: Mr. H. O. de la Camp. Per P. and O. steamer *Malta*, from Brindisi, Oct. 18.—To Ceylon: Mr. F. H. Izard. Per P. and O. steamer *Gwalior*, from Southampton, Oct. 19.—To Yokohama (via Bombay): Capt. Saunders, Marquis of Kildare. Per P. and O. steamer *Pekin*, from Southampton, Oct. 21.—To Yokohama: Rev. and Mrs. J. Bates. To Hong Kong: Mrs. P. B. C. Ayers. To Ceylon: Mr. C. W. Jebb, Miss Jebb, Mr. C. H. Cameron, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Cameron, Miss M. Cloytown, Miss E. O. Wignoon, Mr. R. S. Fraser.

Per French steamer *Ironoudy*, from Marseilles, Oct. 10.—To Shanghai: Mr. R. H. Artindale, Mr. Edward Meyer. To Hong Kong: Mr. Ross. To Batavia: Mr. Sentius. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Goldie, Miss Spooner, Mrs. K. B. Spooner, Mr. C. W. Groskamps, Mr. A. van Delden. To Galle: Rev. W. F. Kelly, Mr. R. G. Corbet, Mr. G. Harper, Mr. Bremer.

Per French steamer *Sinthe*, from Marseilles, Oct. 24.—To Yokohama: Mrs. Watanabe, Mrs. Nakasima. To Shanghai: Mr. Laing. To Hong Kong: Sir Arthur and Miss Kennedy, Mr. O. Callaghan, Mr. and Mrs. Coxon. To Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. Greg. To Singapore: Mr. W. H. Read. To Galle: Mr. E. Vex, Mr. Pauncetot. Per French steamer *Meikong*, from Marseilles, Nov. 7.—To Shanghai: Mr. Barvier, Mr. Choppard, Mr. H. Relph. To Singapore: Mrs. Harvey, Capt. and Mrs. Ross, Mr. John Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Adamson and child, Miss MacNair. Per French steamer *Amazon*, from Marseilles, Nov. 21.—To Galle: Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Dickson.

Per steamer *Glaucus* (Holt's line), from Liverpool, Sept. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Smith. To Shanghai: Miss Radcliffe.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The present French mail brings advices from this port to the 11th August, and by the Pacific mail we have news to the 24th August; the French mail from London, July 2, arrived out on the 17th August, and the following P. and O. mail of July 9 was received on the 22nd August. The *Japan Herald* supplies the following items of news:—

In Japanese political affairs but little has transpired. The attention of the newspapers is still directed to the Press Laws. Several additional prosecutions have been commenced, but in two cases the accused have been acquitted. In others, sentence has been pronounced upon the offenders, and these warnings are having such effect, that already one editor has publicly stated that not liking either fine or imprisonment, he has resigned his position.

A supposed breach of Treaty rights has again occurred. The Hon. W. A. Richardson (late Secretary of the United States Treasury), and Captain Lewis (senior officer of the Asiatic Squadron), whilst making an excursion to Hachioji, a town regarded as within the Treaty limits, were arrested by the Japanese police, kept under surveillance, returned to Yokohama under the escort of a policeman, and retained in custody here until security was given for their reappearance. The affair is now under investigation, and we hope that the United States Minister will exert himself to have justice done to his countrymen. In so doing we are sure that he will be supported by all the other Ministers, for an attack of this sort is not one simply on American citizens, but it is directed against the rights of all.

The Japanese Government is continually on the watch, through the police detectives and spies, for opium smokers. It is well known to many that opium smoking is extensively carried on here secretly by the Chinese, and in many cases by the Japanese employed by them, notwithstanding the severity with which the law deals with this offence. Constable Mansbridge, whilst out with a body of the native police to see that they did not enter the houses of Europeans whilst engaged in their search for un-

licensed public women, thought that he smelt opium coming out of a Chinese den; he quickly forced the door, and found two Celestials stretched at full length and inhaling the smoke of the noxious drug. One of them rose to a sitting position, and drew a Japanese sword about two feet long, with which he aimed a blow at the constable; but his aim was unsteady, as he was quite under the influence of the drug, and the blow only cut through the trousers of the constable, who immediately struck the fellow down with his staff. Both men were caught, and are now in prison awaiting trial.

A serious affray, between some men-of-war's men and the Japanese police, occurred in Takashimacho on the 15th Aug. It appears that the men were drinking in a house, when a fight arose, and on the police being called, and attempting to arrest them, three men of the Italian corvette, *Vettor Pisani*, drew knives, cutting and stabbing the officers with them. The police used their clubs very freely, the men's heads and faces being badly cut and bruised. Ultimately the sailors were handcuffed and taken to the Police-station.

It will be remembered that some few months ago the Japanese despatched a mission to Siam, with a view of making inquiries as to the commerce and resources of that country, and as to the desirability of concluding a treaty with it. We now hear that the Government has, after consideration of the report, arrived at the conclusion that there is no likelihood of there ever being sufficient trade between the two countries to render it necessary to enter into a treaty with Siam.

The Commission for the cession of Saghalien will leave in a day or two for that island. It is reported in one of the native papers that the 800 Ainos who constitute the Japanese population of the island wish to remain under Japanese Government, and that they will probably be transferred to Yesso.

The annual report of the Japanese Postmaster-General has been issued. From a financial point of view, this department is not a success, as the receipts for the year amounted to \$352,000, whilst the expenditures reach \$502,000. A still larger deficiency is expected next year.

Some astonishment has been caused here by the *New York Tribune* stating the number of Protestant missionaries in Japan at seventy, and the converts at 200,000. Attention has been called to this, and Dr. Hepburn, one of our oldest and most respected missionaries, has stated, in reply, the number of Protestant missionaries at sixty-five, and the baptised native church members at 550, a very different total from that given by the *Tribune*.

The monument sent out by the Messageries Maritimes, in memory of the sufferers in the *Nil* disaster, has been fixed in its place near Cape Idsu. The stone is pyramidal in shape, and bears on one of its faces a marble tablet, on which are engraved the names of those who perished on that occasion.

It is reported that the Japanese are going to do away with one of the worst blots in their criminal procedure, and, for about the fifteenth time, it is announced that torture is about to be abolished.

Attention has been called here to the immense extent to which the forging of trade marks is carried on by the Japanese.

CHINA.

PEKING AND TIENTSIN.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *North China Herald* writes as follows:—

On the 31st July H.B.M.'s gunboat *Mosquito* arrived from Chefoo, conveying Mr. Mayers, Chinese Secretary to the British Legation at Peking; and on the following day His Excellency Mr. Wade, accompanied by Mr. Grosvenor, reached here per steamer *Chihli*. The arrival of these dignitaries has created a good deal of excitement in official and private circles. Various rumours are afloat respecting Mr. Wade's intended movements. How much is true, and how much fiction, no living man seems to know but Mr. Wade himself, and he does not appear to be willing to tell. It is positively certain that he will remain in Tientsin for some days yet. The arrival of the British Admiral from Japan is expected in a fortnight.

Mr. Wade visited the yamen of the Governor-General at Tientsin on the 3rd Aug., at ten o'clock A.M.; but it has just come out that the long confidential conference which was reported to have followed was summarily postponed by an unhappy circumstance, which it is now my business to relate. Every resident in China is familiar with the peculiar way Chinese officials have of receiving foreigners, by keeping them in waiting for an indefinite time in front of the great central door of the yamen, before permitting them to come into their presence in the Hall of Audience. Of all the numberless devices to which the cunning mandarins have resorted to gratify their ancient pride there is not a happier one than this. The very idea of keeping an official—especially if he is a "Barbarian" as well—waiting before the yamen door, is pleasing beyond degree. And like all other earthly pleasures, the longer it can be spun out the better it is. It is hardly to be expected that Li Hung-Chang despises these vanities. Indeed it is said of him that he is exceedingly partial to these sweets—that

the attentions of Foreign Ministers and other high dignitaries are his great delight, and that nothing cuts him so deeply as to be passed by unnoticed. Chinese officials, by long experience and shrewd observation, have learned just about what length of time a Foreign Minister will wait for an interview, and they generally give the full measure of it. But once in a while they make a mistake and overdo the thing; and that is exactly what Li did with Mr. Wade. It appears that the Minister, accompanied by Mr. Mayers, left the British Concession in their chairs, and in due time they appeared before the Viceroy's door. The visit had been arranged the day before, and a messenger had gone a-head to notify their coming, as is usual in such cases. When they reached the Viceroy's Yamen, they found the great door shut. How long the party waited in that hot broiling sun, no one seems to know; quite long enough, it seems, to wear out Mr. Wade's patience. Without further ado, therefore, he turned himself about, and leaving a verbal message that he had made his visit, proceeded homeward straitway. He had not gone far, however, when he was overtaken by the Viceroy's runners, who begged him to return. "I have made my visit, and now I am going home; give my compliments to the Viceroy, and tell him I am sorry he could not see me when I called upon him," said Mr. Wade, as he passed on.

The consternation which the incident caused amongst the inmates of the yamen, including the Viceroy himself, can be better imagined than described; there was gnashing of teeth and general confusion. Some explanation was necessary on the part of the Viceroy. With the single exception of the case of Sir Rutherford Alcock, with the Viceroy at Nanking, a similar case has never before happened in the intercourse between Foreign Ministers and high Chinese officials. In this instance, too, there was no plausible excuse for Li; he knew the day before that Mr. Wade was coming; the hour of the conference had been fixed. What excuse could he make for thus detaining Her Majesty's Minister at his very door? It is to be hoped that his apology,—which I am assured he did make,—was sufficient. The unfortunate *weiguens* whose business it is to record visits and attend the opening of this great central doorway of the Viceroy's yamen, have been made the victims; they have been degraded and dismissed from their office, for not announcing Mr. Wade's visit. A poor excuse is better than none. The Viceroy has done the best thing possible under the circumstances; but it must be confessed that, after all, there is little to be said for him. Mr. Wade's action appears to have been most dignified and becoming, and he deserves well for his praiseworthy conduct in this matter. Let us hope that the lesson which he has thus taught the Viceroy will have a wholesome effect.

The weather for the last seven days has been intolerably hot—the thermometer rising by day from 98° to 104°, and at night not going below 86° to 92°. Many deaths have occurred among the Chinese, and the European community is greatly exhausted by this unparalleled continuance of extreme heat.

The ratifications of the Treaty between China and Peru were exchanged on the 7th August in Tientsin, between their Excellencies J. Fedrico Elmore, Peruvian Minister, and Ting, late Footai of Kiangsu.

A member of the British Legation arrived in Tientsin on the 7th August, and it is reported that Mr. Mayers is to leave for Peking on the 9th.

A Chinese gunboat has arrived from Newchwang, with rebel (1 banditti) prisoners on board, said to have been sent across for execution.

The marine who lately liberated four prisoners from the *Dwarf*, and escaped with them, and who was missing when they were recaptured, has since been taken near Taku, and has been returned to his vessel. All of the six deserters have now been secured.

SHANGHAI.

The present mail brings advices from this port to the 15th August; the French mail from London July 2 was received on the 14th August. The following summary of news is from the *North China Herald*:—

It is with very deep regret that we have to record the sudden death of Mr. J. A. T. Meadows. Mr. Meadows was an old resident in China, and was well-known to all the older foreign residents in Shanghai and Tientsin. He commenced his career in the British Consular Service, and was at one time H.M. Vice-Consul in Shanghai. He resigned this appointment in order to start in business as a merchant at Tientsin, directly after the opening of the port; and there he has since permanently resided. As Consular representative of more than one nationality, as Steward of the Race Club, as a member of the Municipal Council he has always taken an active share in current events, and it is suggested that the work and worry he has lately had as interpreter to the Peruvian Legation—coincidentally with the great prevalent heat—may have had to do with his sudden illness and death. As a correspondent of the *North China Herald*, he has been long well-known to our readers. His letters were verbose, and sometimes rugged in style, but betrayed a knowledge of China and the Chinese, and of current Chinese politics, greater than most foreigners possess. It is a testimony to the respect in

which he was held, that H.E. Mr. Wade, H.E. Dr. Elmore, Messrs. Mayers, Mongan, Bismark, Waebur, Sheppard, Dillon, Benavides—in fact all the foreign officials in Tientsin, and nearly all the foreign residents—followed him to the grave. Sailors from H.M.S. *Dwarf* carried the body, and the funeral service was read by the Rev. J. Innocent.

In regard to the passage of Chinese soldiers through the Settlement, the Senior Consul has informed the Municipal Council that the Taoutai has voluntarily expressed regret that the peace of the Settlements was disturbed, and promised to take steps to prevent a similar occurrence in future. The French Consul has asked the Consul-General to take steps to prevent the passage of Chinese troops through the Foreign Settlements, and have been informed that the Taoutai has given orders that the troops shall in future be transported by water to the Tong-ka-doo suburb.

It will be remembered that, about a month ago, the native doorkeeper of one of the London Mission Chapels inside the City, was murdered, and that another man, much younger, was found badly wounded, lying near him. This man was taken to the Chinese Hospital in the Shantung-road, where, under the care of Dr. Johnston, who undertook the case, he recovered so fast as soon to be considered out of danger. His story was that the doorkeeper was murdered, and himself wounded while defending him, by a third person, still undiscovered. It is said that the people employed by the Chehsien to watch him in the hospital, were in the habit of talking to him about the murder, and telling him that as soon as he got well he would be taken before the Taoutai and his head cut off. This always seemed to excite and alarm him, and seizing a favourable opportunity while his guards were asleep, he made his escape from the hospital, and has not been retaken. This escape, coupled with that of the City prison, places the Chehsien in an awkward position personally, as Chinese law holds magistrates responsible for the safety of their prisoners. Although the strictest search has been made by the Municipal Police and the Chehsien's officials, throughout both the Settlement and City, no trace of either of the culprits has been detected.

Some excitement was occasioned among the Chinese residents at the lower end of the Canton-road on the 9th August, consequent on the sudden death of a youth, the second son of a blacksmith living in that neighbourhood. It appeared that the deceased had asisted his father as hammerman until recently, when he began to suffer from weakness of the right arm, and could no longer pursue his calling. A native doctor was called in, who, in accordance with the usual Chinese custom, engaged to cure the sufferer for a certain sum, payable on his recovery. The *douceur* in his instance was \$14, and for a day or two the patient seemed to be progressing towards recovery. Subsequently, however, unfavourable symptoms set in, and the patient died. The workshop is very small, and for want of better accommodation the corpse was laid upon a sort of bench, amid the ironwork, not far from the forge. The relatives, believing deceased had not had fair play, sent for the *tepaou* of the district, and, in order to secure the doctor until his arrival, fastened him with a chain round his ankle to the leg of the bench on which the corpse was lying. Gradually the news spread that the doctor was chained up because he had killed the youth, and the house soon became surrounded; and when the matter was reported at the Central Police Station and Inspector Fowler hastened to the place the stench was dreadful. The unhappy doctor was at once released from the chain and conducted to the police station. While all this was transacting, the bereft father and the *tepaou* had gone to a teashop to talk the matter over, and there the two contrived to settle it in true Chinese fashion; an arrangement was made with the deceased's family that the unlucky doctor should pay \$20 in full of all demands, for coffin, burial fees, *joss* observances, and funeral feast.

When Chen was appointed to Li Han-Chang's staff, a Wei-yuen named Chang, who was lately Magistrate of the Mixed Court on the French Concession, was nominated to succeed him. But Chang is head of the Lekin Tax office in the Settlement, and was objected to on that and other accounts. The objection has been deferred to, and another official nominated. The new magistrate seems a man of very different stamp from his predecessor, and it is remarkable that he seems not to be hampered by the want of power, which was always put forward as an excuse for Chen's leniency. He is disposed to punish criminals, and he passes fitting sentences when Chen would have suggested the City as the only possible alternative from a mild bamboozing. Judging from present experience there will be no great cause for regret if Chen is promoted after his Yunnan experiences are over.

A correspondent calls attention to a system of gambling which is, we are told, carried on largely at present in the Settlement. Our informant says that invitation cards are sent round to "boys" and others known to affect gambling, with a sign on each indicating the evening's place of assembly, and that very heavy gambling does undoubtedly take place. This system of a moveable table, however, makes it more difficult for the police to capture the culprits. We are aware that they have been watching the locality indicated for some time; but have not succeeded in discovering any gambling there, of late. Probably they would do

well to accept the offer of guidance. We are all interested in the matter; for gambling very frequently leads to thieving, with servants, and we have heard of several cases of household robbery lately, traceable to this cause.

A parade of the Volunteers was held the 12th August. Only the Rifle companies attended, and these mustered in fair strength, considering the heat. It is not that the heat is really sufficient to deter, for it was pleasantly cool on the racecourse; but the anticipation is so much worse than the reality, that men are deterred. Having mustered in front of the Custom-house, fifteen rounds of blank cartridge per man were served out, and the force marched off in the usual order for the racecourse. After one or two simple battalion movements line was formed fronting the cricket-ground, and volley firing was practised. The men have had no practice in this for a long time, and it is not surprising that the firing was at first very irregular. It improved, however, after a few rounds. Some skirmishing drill was then gone through very creditably, and line was again formed and the order given for independent firing—which was only brought to a close by failure of ammunition. After the march back down the Maloo and a few words from Major Hart, criticising the movements, the men were dismissed.

The steamer *Flamingo*, the improvised Chinese troop-transport, has been fitted with six additional rice-boilers on deck, the former cooking apparatus having proved insufficient to provide food for the troops on board. The result of this oversight was frequent squabbling and fighting amongst the men, which always resulted in some of the more weakly of the soldiers being deprived of their rations. On one occasion a sailor was carrying some bread for his mess, when he was beset by a crowd of hungry soldiers, who tried to take the bread from him. In defending it he was slightly stabbed in the left breast, but unfortunately was unable to identify the man who inflicted the wound. The *Flamingo* sailed again for Takow on the 7th Aug., to embark 2,500 more troops for this port. She is a new Glasgow-built vessel, this being her first trip from home. By her three troop-charters to Formosa she will, it is said, earn \$36,000.

It is stated that the Canton and Macao Steam Navigation Company are chartering foreign steamers to take tribute rice to Tientsin, at 14 to 20 dollar-cents a picul, whereas the price they get from the Government is 6 mace. It instances the case of the *Calabar* chartered for 20 cents, the *Cheviot* 14, and the *Consolation* 14. Of course, we do not know whether the Government or the Company get the benefit of the cheaper rate. But it would be hard to demonstrate more clearly the extravagance of the rate allowed.

We learn that the British barque, *Storm King* has been purchased by the C. M. S. N. Co., with the view of being dismantled, and converted into a hulk for one of the ports on the Yangtze. The purchase money, it is said, amounts to \$20,000.

The Dutch wooden corvette *Curacao* arrived in port on the 12th Aug., and after a stay of a few days will resume her voyage to Batavia, visiting Hong Kong, Singapore and Manila on her way.

The old steamer *Aden*, which her present owners could never make remunerative owing to her great greed for fuel, is to be overhauled and fitted out as a sailing ship.

The subjoined items of news are from the *Celestial Empire* :—

The past week has been upon the whole a fairly busy one, although the actual occurrences are not numerous. Among the political incidents we may briefly notice the departure of Ch'án, the late magistrate at the Mixed Court, to join His Excellency Li Han-Chang preparatory to setting out upon the expedition to Yunnan; an enterprise which, as far as the British Commissioners are concerned, is rapidly achieving the height of unpopularity. Another collision is reported from the North, this time, however, between Mr. Wade and the Viceroy of Chihli—in which the latter magnate appears to have come off second best.

It may, perhaps, be some consolation to the local magistrates, in their difficulties of late, caused by the sudden and unauthorised departure of several important prisoners, to know that a capture recently made by one of the city officials' detectives is of some value. This man is said to be a subordinate chief in a large body of robbers or brigands who infest a mountain named Chu-lung-shan, a place which we are told is somewhere on the other side of the Ta-hu. It is stated that the total number of the banditti massed in this place amounts to no less than 50,000 men. This sounds prodigious; but even in Shanghai we have some means of seeing in what crowds the Chinese can sometimes congregate; though, of course, the general native disregard of accuracy leaves the figure open to some doubt. It is added that this band or rather army of outlaws has affiliated members everywhere about in the towns and cities; and that it is supposed that the man just captured came to Shanghai in order to obtain information which would enable him and some confederates to plan a robbery.

This week there has been no issue of our youngest Shanghai contemporary, the *I-pau*. It is said that there has been trouble in the ranks of its contributors; that the journal is without an editor; and that even if its present suspension be intended to be temporary only, it is very likely that the swoon may turn out to be fatal. The *I-pau* commenced in a small way, though with some signs of vigour; but had latterly fallen into bad habits, and

was too fond of inserting sensational paragraphs of a tone and colour that to foreign readers were insufferable, and which, even respectable natives viewed with disapproval—a fact on which we lately felt impelled to remark.

The 12th August, being the birthday of the Empress Dowager Tze-An, chief wife of the Emperor, whom foreigners call Hsien-fung, the yamens were all closed, no business being transacted. We are told that the present age of the Imperial lady is forty-three years.

FOOCHOW AND AMOY.

The subjoined items of intelligence from these ports are taken from the *Foochow Herald* :—

In a recent issue we drew public attention to the case of Mr. Boysen of the Great Northern Telegraph Company's service. This gentleman while engaged in taking delivery of property belonging to the Company, at a place called Hungkow, about thirty miles from this port, was assaulted and robbed of all the money in his possession. We now learn that the ringleader in the attack and robbery has been identified, but that the native officials decline either to arrest him or obtain restitution of the stolen money. The man is still at large at Hungkow, and the mandarins alleged that they dare not interfere with him. As in small matters, so is it in greater; Mr. Blacklock's murder is quietly slurred over; the robbery and assault to which we now particularly refer is winked at. Possibly, when half-a-dozen more foreigners are killed, and the entire community plundered, we shall hear of measures being devised by those in authority to ensure the protection, which is now apparently claimed in vain. The Chinese officials were ready enough to cause all the power of British law to bear upon Mr. Fawcett at Chefoo, the other day, even to the length of bringing up sham evidence. In the *Fu Sing* case, they have been, most energetic; but they entirely fail to see that there is anything undignified in their repeated protestation of inability to enforce the law against their own countrymen. We think, however, that when really roused to action they can act, and to make them do so is the manifest duty of the Foreign Government.

A *canard* was current in the Settlement a few days since to the effect that Mr. Wade had hauled down his flag, and that war was declared. The excitement was intense, and certain tea shippers were for the moment in a state of jubilee, loudly expressing their belief that the rise of 6d. per lb., announced many years ago was about to take place. It turned out, however, that Mr. Wade had not decided to leave Peking, and that war was not declared. The story originated, we believe, at Pagoda Anchorage.

To the great relief, we should think, of the foreign community, the "Joss" processions have ceased for a time—all the devils, little and big, black and white, having been driven, let us hope, into the infernal regions. We have not, however, heard of any marked improvement in the value of tea; and we do not credit the report that several teamen interested in second crop Pan Yongs and Fock Oans subscribed liberally to the processions in the expectation of a further rise taking place in the value of these fashionable descriptions of tea.

The troops lately quartered at the Customs, Pagoda Anchorage, have been withdrawn. Beyond exercising a certain amount of moral influence, we should say that their presence was entirely useless. An attack upon the smuggling village might have resulted in some good; but this, although talked about, could not, it seems, be carried out.

We are reliably informed that the forts recently constructed for the eighteen-ton guns, purchased at the time of the difficulty with Japan, are already tumbling to pieces, having been built for "look-see," and nothing more. This is another beautiful illustration of the way public money is squandered—with a view to carrying out sham reforms.

Two of the Arsenal gun-boats, with a number of Chinese officials and their body guards, &c., on board, have left Foochow for Tai Wan-fu. There is apparently a lull in the contest between the aborigines and Imperialists, owing, we understand, to the prevalence of sickness and disease in the ranks of the latter.

H.B.M.S. *Growler*, after a stay of fifteen months at Amoy, has at last been relieved by the *Hart*, a vessel of the same class, commanded by Commander Harvey Royse. The *Hart*, it will be remembered, accompanied the *Charybdis* on her expedition to Lukut in November, 1874, when there was some pretty severe fighting done by the Naval Brigade under Lieutenant Jones, lately in acting command of the *Hornet*.

The British Consular residence at Amoy, which has been so long in a state of decay, is being pulled down in earnest, the roof having already disappeared. It is to be hoped that Her Britannic Majesty will be in future better represented—architecturally.

The reconstruction of the telegraph line from Foochow to Amoy was commenced on the 15th Aug., the day appointed by contract. Captain Hoskier, R.D.E., the engineer-in-chief of the Great Northern Telegraph Company, will, we understand, superintend this important work.

The new Club at Amoy is to be commenced shortly, and the Club Elders have taken time by the forelock in framing rules. The rules, it is believed, are very stringent—especially in the matter of dogs and touching the barometer.

HONG KONG.

Our advices by the present mail extend to the 21st Aug.; the P. and O. mail from London July 9 arrived out on the 15th Aug. The following items of news are from the *Hong Kong Daily Press* :—

The meeting of the shareholders of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation passed off more pleasantly and satisfactorily than that of February. The report was so much more palatable that this is not surprising. None but pleasant words passed, confidence in directors expressed, and congratulations on the stability and improved prospects of the Bank exchanged. The meeting was therefore perfectly harmonious, although the directors were unable to announce a dividend. But there was consolation in the announcement made by the Chairman that if the Bank does as well during the current half-year they would be enabled to return to the old and satisfactory practice, and declare one.

A boat accident, in which some of the leading residents in the Colony had a narrow escape, occurred at Cape D'Aguilar, late on the night of the 16th August. It appears that on that evening H.E. the Administrator gave a bachelor's picnic to a number of the leading residents in the Colony. Among those present were :—Sir J. Smale (Chief Justice), Sir Brooke Robertson (of Canton), Hon. J. Bramston (Attorney-General), Hon. C. C. Smith, Hon. W. H. Alexander, Hon. W. Keswick, Hon. Charles May, Mr. Russell, Mr. McIver, Captain Buller (of the *Modeste*), Captain Turton (of the *Egeria*), Mr. Robb (of the Naval Yard), and a number of others. The party left the Harbour at a quarter to six o'clock in the evening in the new Government steam launch, bound for Cape D'Aguilar. After a very pleasant sail, the destination was reached a little before seven o'clock. Owing to the nature of the beach in that locality it was impossible to get the launch close alongside, and the party were landed in boats. After partaking of dinner on shore, a visit was paid to the new lighthouse, and the remainder of the evening was spent in an enjoyable manner. The party started to return to the launch about half-past eleven o'clock. On reaching the beach several boats were waiting to convey the excursionists to the launch which was lying at some little distance off. Among these was a small fishing coble, which was very shallow and exceedingly cranky. Into this vessel went Sir John Smale, Mr. Bramston, Mr. Robb, and Mr. Keswick, and they seem to have been the last in putting off. There was a bit of a swell on at the time, and the launch, from which there projected a ladder, was rolling considerably. The occupants of the other boats seem to have got on board all right, but the coble, in which was Sir John and the three others named above, in getting alongside ran right under the projecting ladder. The launch at that moment came rolling to that side, the latter struck the gunwale of the coble, and turned it right over, pitching all its occupants into the water. The Chief Justice went down, but on rising to the surface again received a rope, to which he clung for some time; subsequently several of those on board managed to pull him up, and he was thus rescued from his perilous position. Mr. Keswick was fortunate enough to catch hold almost at once, and he was also pulled out. Immediately on the coble upsetting Mr. Bramston struck clear of it, and swam some short distance away; he was keeping himself afloat, but Captain Buller, who was on board, was afraid he might get exhausted, and courageously jumped in to assist him. They were both got on board a few minutes afterwards. Mr. Robb, who happened to be at that side of the coble next the launch, caught hold of the ladder and clung to it all through. Of the four gentlemen in the water Sir John Smale seemed to have suffered most, and as soon as he was rescued he was taken below, and was made as comfortable as surrounding circumstances would admit it. The launch then at once started for Hong Kong, and was alongside the Praya shortly before one o'clock yesterday morning. We are pleased to state that the gentlemen immersed are none the worse for their ducking.

A case has been tried in the Police Court, before Mr. Russell which forcibly illustrates the mischief often arising from the readiness with which the Chinese will sell their services, no matter in whose or what behalf. The prisoner in question, it turned out, was an old offender; on his last appearance before the Bench he had been ordered to find security in two sureties for \$50 each; this, it would seem, he had no difficulty in doing—for a consideration. Two men appeared in Court, said they knew the prisoner to be an honest individual, and stood security for him, stating that he was going to leave the colony. Mr. Russell very properly sent for these worthies, and read them a severe lecture. They confessed they did not know the prisoner, and bailed him out on the representation of his relations that he was going to leave the colony. Of course they ran the risk of losing their bail; but this the Chinese, who are born speculators, are too ready to do. It is to be hoped that Mr. Russell's remark will be productive of good, and do something towards checking the system. The native journals will do well to make the case public and warn the Chinese against becoming bail for fellows of whose character and position they know nothing satisfactory. Not only are they likely by doing so to place themselves in an awkward

ward position, but they are also, as a matter of fact, aiding and abetting the escape of criminals from justice.

THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders in this Corporation was held at the City Hall, Hong Kong, on the 18th August. There were present:—Messrs. A. André (chairman), Forbes, Hayllar, Q.C., Bellios, Cordes, Hoppius, McIver, F. D. Sassoon, Greig, Burrows, H. H. Nelson, Dr. Adams, Anton, Bottomley, Grobein, Newton, H. Gibb, Hon. P. Ryrie, Bertrand, Middleton, C. P. Chater, Baron de Overbeck, P. S. Woonwalla, D. M. Mehta, Dickie, Chinoy, Green, Kingsmill, Vaucher, Landstein, Fairbairn, Karberg, Beart, C. C. Cohen, W. Morgan, Laurie, Mardfeldt, Hancock, Strack, J. E. Sassoon, M. D. Ezekiel, S. J. David, J. A. de Carvalho, Rozario, Robinson, H. Smith, Mallory, Cope, de Guigne, Alabor, Romano, Simonis, Wheeler, Mylne, Dr. O'Brien, Heaton, Deacon, J. T. Chater, &c.

The Chairman having read the notice calling the meeting, Mr. Kingsmill said he thought the Chairman had better read the report; he always liked it to be read at the meeting. The Chairman accordingly read the report, a copy of which has already appeared in our columns.

The Chairman then said:—Gentlemen, I am somewhat more fortunate than my predecessor in this chair, for although the Report and Statement of Accounts now presented to you are not altogether so favourable as could be wished, yet, taking into account the unprofitable state of trade generally in the East, and the numerous failures that have occurred during the past six months, the profits realised cannot be regarded otherwise than as satisfactory. For the half-year they amount to about 5 per cent. on the Bank's capital, and if we can do as well during the current half-year, and no unforeseen disasters occur in the meantime, we shall, I trust, at the beginning of 1876 return to the satisfactory practice of declaring a dividend. The result of the past six months at any rate proves that even during exceptionally bad times, and in the face of unusually grave mercantile complications, the Bank has been able to do a fairly remunerative business. Reverting to the failures that have taken place during the past half-year, I think you will agree with me when I say that the very trifling losses which the Bank has incurred through them afford convincing evidence of the prudence and forethought applied in managing your business. It is almost impossible to escape from some loss in times such as we are now witnessing, but the cautious policy which has carried the Bank uninjured during the recent crisis will, you may rest assured, continue to be followed up by the board in future, and I trust with the same fortunate results. As promised by the Chairman at our last meeting, the substance of Mr. McLean's report has been placed before the shareholders. He carefully inspected all the Bank's establishments and accounts, valuing, as far as he was able, the various assets, and although my co-directors and myself were certainly unprepared for so serious a depreciation in the valuation of the Bank's securities as Mr. McLean found, we have accepted without question the accuracy of Mr. McLean's estimates, as we fully recognise the care with which they were made, and we ourselves had reason to know that in the interval some accounts had gone somewhat to the bad. Mr. McLean estimated \$116,888.68 as lost, and recommended the amount should be written off at 30th June. It will be satisfactory to you to know, however, that, while providing for all the items referred to, we have only had to write off \$100,911.14, thus showing that \$15,977.74 had been in the meantime made good, and we consider that a fair amount of that now written off will yet be recovered. Again, McLean estimated that we might lose on "doubtful accounts," if they eventually turned out all bad, at the outside a further sum of \$340,000. This of course includes the doubtful accounts at the head office as well as at all the branches in London, India, China and Japan—everywhere. As stated in the report, \$41,000, have since been ascertained to be bad, and have been written off. This item forms a portion of the sum of £10,211 0s. 8d. which the Chairman at the last meeting, in reply to Mr. Kingsmill, referred to as an account under litigation. That litigation has since resulted in a compromise under which the Bank, by advice of counsel in England, accepted £2,000 in liquidation of its claim. It is a satisfaction to the directors, as it must be to the Bank's shareholders and depositors, to have their views confirmed by Mr. McLean as to the general soundness of the Bank's position and business. The directors are also pleased that he confirms their views as to the management of the Bank at the head office and branches. Mr. McLean's summary of his report to the directors will be found on the manager's table for the perusal of such shareholders as wish to consult it. You will have noticed in the accounts that the directors have not set aside any sum for their remuneration during the past half-year; they have preferred to leave the matter in abeyance pending the result of the whole year's operations becoming known. The directors regret that they cannot yet inform the shareholders that the several properties so often referred to in their reports have been realised, but I am in a position to state that as regards two of the most important of them they are in a fair way of being taken out of the Bank's hands, and that before next general meeting I have great hopes we shall have nothing more to do with them; I am happy to inform you that during the past half-year they have cost the Bank nothing. The delay that has arisen in the appointment of the members of the London Committee is due to the directors deeming it advantageous to leave the matter somewhat in abeyance until Mr. McLean's return to London, that gentleman having been placed while here in possession of their views. The matter has already been placed on a satisfactory basis, and will shortly come into operation. Before I move the adoption of the report I shall be glad to answer any questions.

Mr. Kingsmill: Do I understand aright that the profits of the six months have been 5 per cent. on the paid up capital? The Chairman: Yes, they have. Mr. Kingsmill: That is, 10 per cent. per annum? The Chairman: Yes. Mr. Kingsmill said there was a sum of losses estimated in the first instance at \$116,000 odd, he might say in round

numbers \$117,000; did he understand that in consequence of having recovered part of that it did not appear written off? The Chairman said that about \$16,000 had been saved; Mr. McLean had over-estimated the losses. Mr. Kingsmill said the result would be that if any of them made any calculations from the balance-sheet they would be about \$16,000 out. The Chairman said they would be. Mr. Kingsmill said he had made an estimate about their position, but he found he would be \$16,000 out; well, \$16,000 was not much; but \$153,997 had been reserved for contingencies? The Chairman said that amount had been reserved. Mr. Kingsmill said that the result of his calculation would be that, taking no account of the Reserve or Marine Insurance funds, and supposing one-half of Mr. McLean's estimate of losses to be correct, the Bank would be about \$43,000 on the wrong side. The Chairman said that would be so.

Mr. Kingsmill then said that taking everything into account he thought their present position was very far from being unsatisfactory. On the other hand, considering all things, they had great reason to be satisfied with the result. There was one thing to which the Chairman had alluded in his address and it was, that the directors had not put anything aside for their remuneration for the current half year, but were waiting to see the result of the year's transactions before doing so. It was very well known what position he (Mr. Kingsmill) had taken up on this matter at the last meeting of shareholders. He was pretty much to the front on that occasion, but without egotism he thought he could now fairly and honestly say before that meeting, and it would not come badly from him, that in his opinion the directors had shown great judgment, great tact, and a certain amount of graciousness in having the question of their remuneration postponed until the end of the year. But at the same time, he must also say that in his opinion the directors were entitled to remuneration. He did not want to speak disrespectfully of anyone, but two directors who were on the board in the times when the evil was done, drew their full salary without scruple or hesitation, and then left as soon as the Bank got into hot water. The present directors, however, had had no bed of roses; their task had been a very troublesome one, and the results now showed that they had acted with great judgment and prudence. That was one reason why he thought the directors were entitled to their remuneration. But there was another reason. When a Corporation like this, with a capital of \$5,000,000, commenced to haggle about a few thousand dollars for directors' remuneration, it looked bad, and seemed to outsiders as if they could not afford it. At the same time it was right to pay special tribute to one of the directors for his action in the matter. He (Mr. Kingsmill) had heard on very good authority that there was one director (Mr. Bellios) who had not drawn his remuneration on the 31st December last, and he wished to ask the Chairman if this was correct? The Chairman said that one of the directors had not drawn his remuneration for the half-year ending 31st Dec. last. Mr. Kingsmill said, without in any way reflecting on the other directors, that the action of that gentleman had been most generous, and he certainly deserved the gracious acknowledgments of the shareholders. Since the last half-yearly meeting he (Mr. Kingsmill) had been put in possession of the knowledge of many matters, and he could now speak fairly on the subject. He had one or two other questions to ask. The first was, had the directors reconsidered, or did they intend to reconsider, the resolution which the Chairman at the last meeting said had been come to, namely, that \$20,000 was to be expended on the furniture for the Bank's premises at Shanghai?

The Chairman said that after consultation it was decided that good substantial furniture for the premises in Shanghai should be procured in London by Mr. McLean, and he was requested to state that it must be laid down in Shanghai at a cost not exceeding £2,500. Mr. Kingsmill said that was very satisfactory. He had another question to ask, and it was to the advantage of the Bank's employees that he should do so. Had any bonus or any remuneration of any kind, in addition to the regular salary, been granted to any one servant, manager or otherwise, of the Bank within the last half year? The Chairman said such a thing was not customary with the Bank, and it had not been done. Mr. Kingsmill asked was it a fact that the manager received as part of the arrangement under his employment or otherwise any addition to his salary—any reward or bonus, or anything of the kind? Was there anything went to the Bank's manager other than his salary? The Chairman: No. Mr. Kingsmill then asked if the Chairman could form any idea, in consequence of what had since transpired, what the losses estimated by Mr. McLean would really be? The Chairman said that since Mr. McLean had left the Colony, they were certain that half the amount of \$299,000 would be saved.

The Chairman said if there were no other questions to ask he had much pleasure in moving that the report and balance-sheet be adopted. Mr. Burrows seconded. The motion was put and carried unanimously. The Chairman said the next business was the confirmation of the election of a director. Mr. Forbes proposed that the election of Mr. McIver as a director be confirmed; Mr. Burrows seconded. The motion was put and carried unanimously. Mr. F. D. Sassoon then proposed that Mr. H. B. Gibb be appointed an auditor; Mr. Kingsmill seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Chairman said there was no other business before the meeting. Mr. Kingsmill, after congratulating the directors upon the satisfactory state of things, moved that a vote of thanks be accorded to them. The Chairman having acknowledged the compliment the proceedings terminated.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

MANILA.

On the 12th July last, the exact date fixed upon by a Spanish naval officer for the occurrence of a typhoon among the Philippines, a typhoon actually took place in the China Sea, which is thus referred to in the *Comercio*:—"The steamer *Buruan* brings us intelligence of a British vessel having arrived at Ilo Ilo from

Hong Kong, after encountering a typhoon in the China Sea. We have also been informed that three laden vessels which left Ilo Ilo had to put back; one of them with damage to her rigging. At Ilo Ilo, too, bad weather has prevailed, but no damage has been done nor has any accident happened."

The bad weather prevailing at Manila from the 12th July became a storm of such severity on the 20th that no doubt was entertained that it was the tail-end of a typhoon. The departure of the mail steamer *Pasig* from Manila to Singapore was delayed in consequence until the following day. But relatively little damage was done at Manila, but several coasting craft were wrecked, and lives were lost.

JAVA.

BATAVIA.

The following particulars of the bombardment of Sambelangan on the Atchinese coast, lately announced by telegram, are translated from the *Batavia Algemeen Dagblad*:—

"The latest naval news is the bombardment of the principal campong of the petty State of Sambelangan, on the North Coast of Atchin. Some time ago, stricter orders were received regarding the checking of the fisheries carried on by the people of the petty States of Sambelangan and Murdoo, and cruising off the coast of the latter was consequently actively proceeded with. Whenever a fishing prahu ventured outside, the cruiser, by means of musketry or easy shot, compelled her to stop her occupation, and to return to the river. At length one of the men-of-war succeeded in attacking a number of fishermen so unexpectedly that they had to leave a large net behind and to flee to the beach. From there they endeavoured to draw in the net. A boat which had been despatched towards it was, however, too quick for them, and brought the net on board. Whilst this was happening several armed men arrived on the sea shore and fired upon the boats and the ship, but without effect. The man-of-war continued her course, and again arrived off Sambelangan two days afterwards. When she had sailed past the campong, and was off a dyke which stretched along the beach for a very great distance, she was received with a well kept up fire. Hundreds of armed men occupied this dyke, and the whole coast to the west was covered with onlookers. Of course the musketry from the shore was not left unanswered; a reply was soon given, not only by a similar fire, but also by shells and case shot. Firing upon the occupied dyke was stopped after about two hours, and the ship steamed to Gighen to inform the commander of the station of the event.

The consequence was that on the morning of the 19th July H.N.M.'s steamers *Citadel Van Antwerpen*, *Schouwen*, and *Palembang* steamed from the roadstead of Gighen towards the east, and having arrived near Sambelangan, they took up a position off the campong. At about nine o'clock the *Citadel Van Antwerpen* opened fire, which example was immediately followed by the other vessels, whereupon a shower of shells was, as it were, thrown as well into the campong as behind the dyke. The campong was soon set on fire, but the enemy had the good luck to extinguish the flames. Their joy was short, for scarcely half an hour afterwards it again caught fire, this time at two places, and so fiercely that extinguishing it was no longer possible. The red flag which so proudly floated above the roofs soon fell also a prey to the flames. At twelve o'clock the bombardment was stopped until two in the afternoon, when it was again continued. At five o'clock the chastisement was considered sufficient, and the ships returned to the roadstead of Gighen. The campong was burnt to the ground. We could not however, ascertain the effect of our fire upon the men, because they were able so to retire behind the dyke that we did not see whether the shells and case shot proved effective. The fire was, however, kept up the whole day in such a lively manner, and the shells burst for the most part so accurately above the dyke, that the number of killed and wounded must have been great."

The *Dagblad* says:—According to a telegraphic despatch from the Resident of Palembang, dated the 10th August, a vessel, the name and nationality of which are unknown, but which has been abandoned by her crew and is partially burnt, has stranded on the Sumatra coast near Tanjong Slakar, off Pulu Nangka. This vessel is probably the French ship *Comète*, which lately caught fire in Banka Straits. A small portion of her cargo, consisting of pepper and kawang tallow, has been saved.

The *Batavia Handelsblad* publishes the official report on the Government chinchona culture in Java for the second quarter of 1875. During the period named the weather was favourable for the collection of bark, 720,000 kilogrammes of which were at its close ready for exportation. In the same quarter 10,978 plants of the ledgeriana and 18,150 of the officinalis variety were put into the prepared ground.

On the 14th August the wreck of the M.M. steamer *Neva* was sold by auction at Batavia for f.16,900.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

SINGAPORE.

The present mail brings advices from this port to the 28th August; the French mail from London July 30 arrived out on the 28th August. We take the following items of intelligence from the *Straits Times*:—

The question of cheap Summary Civil Suits, which was last year debated in our Legislative Council, has been set at rest by

the issue, under the amended law, of a largely augmented scale of fees for the Summary Court. The new Schedule of Fees does away entirely with all hope of cheap justice in the Colony. This question was discussed at some length in the Legislative Council last year, when the Courts' Ordinance was brought up, in order that the Schedule of Fees which had been tacked on the original Bill, and so passed into law, might be struck out. The Hon. Thos. Scott contended for the retention of the low scale of fees, as a part of the understanding by which the members were induced to consent to the reconstitution of the Courts; but he was overweighed, and the schedule was struck out, leaving the Judges to amend the scale of fees whenever they saw fit. The consequence is, that the Government, finding the new Court establishment expensive, wants the suitors to bear the burden of it; hence the augmented scale of fees, which are very much the same as those formerly levied in the Court of Requests,—the cost of entering plaint being graduated on a progressive scale of 10 per cent. on every \$5 up to \$50, 10 per cent. on every dollar from \$50 up to \$250, and 5 per cent. on every dollar above \$250. When to the cost of entering plaint, which must be prepaid by the suitor at the outset, is added the cost of summons, subpoenas, and the other fees necessary to be paid before the case is disposed of, it will be found that before obtaining process to compel payment of a debt of say \$50, a suitor will have to advance out of his own pocket \$10 or \$12,—possibly more,—with the chance that he may not recover even his costs from the debtor. To the few Europeans who have occasion to resort to the Court for the recovery of small claims like this, the outlay may not seem large; but to natives, who are the chief litigants in the smaller cases, the sums they are obliged to expend press very heavily; and where, as often happens, they lose their cause through ignorance of the law, or fail to recover from their debtors even sufficient to pay their costs, the fees will be a heavy tax.

The detention for sixteen days of the British steamer *Bentan* at Rhio for an imaginary breach of the Dutch passenger regulations should receive the attention of our Government, in order to protect our shipping interests in neighbouring ports. Owing to the exclusive policy of the Netherlands Indian Government, the privileges of British ships at ports in Java are so few that we cannot afford to part with any of them, and every effort should be made to secure to British shipping the full measure of those few concessions to which under the treaty and local regulations they are entitled, and to guard against loss to shipowners from the compulsory detention of their vessels through misapprehension of the law, or over-zealousness on the part of some subordinate official, possibly entailing, as in the case of the *Bentan*, an enormous expense, for which the owners have no remedy. The facts of the detention, so far as we can learn, are, that the steamer cleared at Cheribon and Samarang with passengers for this port, the number of passengers being correctly stated in the port clearances granted by the marine officers at those ports; but on reaching Rhio, she was detained by the authorities of that place on the plea that, notwithstanding the tacit sanction of the Dutch Government, through the officers of the ports she had just left, she carried more passengers than their regulations allowed. She was compelled to remain there sixteen days pending the decision of the Procureur-General, to whom the question was referred; that officer deciding that the vessel had been guilty of no breach of law, and therefore was not amenable to seizure or fine. She was then accordingly released; but her owners have had to maintain a well-found steamer in idleness for sixteen days, within a few miles of the conclusion of her voyage, with no hope of redress, unless through a vexatious and expensive appeal to the law of a foreign State, in which the probabilities are strongly against their success. Of course, our remarks are founded upon the assumption that the grounds of detention are as stated; but if so, we think the matter clearly one requiring action on the part of our Executive, in order that the Netherlands India Government may be induced to issue such instructions to its officials in the various ports as will effectually prevent the recurrence of similar difficulties.

Our readers will remember that some three or four weeks since we inserted an article in our columns giving a full description of the visit which Sir William Jervois had paid to the Eastern Coast of the Malay Peninsula, and stating that we were of opinion that great results would accrue therefrom, both commercially and politically. We are now glad to hear that the anticipations which we then formed have commenced already to be realised. Some days ago a boat arrived at Singapore from Tringanu, after a voyage of twenty-three days. This boat contained two messengers from the Sultan of Tringanu with a letter to his Excellency, expressing a great wish to visit Singapore and to improve his acquaintance with the British, and stating that if a ship was sent for him he would start for Singapore at once. This letter, as it happened, came in the very nick of time. The *Pluto* was to start almost immediately for Pahang to bring back the party who had been surveying the Muar and Pahang rivers, and thus fixing the first line across the Peninsula. Tringanu is only twelve hours run from Qualla Pahang, so that Sir William Jervois, seeing the policy of acceding to the Sultan's wish, gave directions that the *Pluto* should combine both services. The Sultan will accordingly arrive here in three or four days, and will be attended by his wives, sons, grandsons, and even

great-grandsons; also, doubtless, by many of his followers. This visit may possibly lead to very important results. We have on a former occasion remarked how rich, both in mineral and vegetable productions, is this State of Tringanu. A very large revenue might under a proper system of management be obtained by developing these resources and furthering trade; and by meeting the Sultan in the same friendly spirit which he himself is evincing towards us, the greater portion of this trade would possibly find its way to the Singapore market.

A general order issued by the Inspector-General of Police announces the appointment of Mr. C. H. Ord as an Inspector of Police, on probation for twelve months, and Acting Head Inspector at Singapore, with the remark that "Mr. Ord as Head Inspector is senior to all other Inspectors, and will be obeyed as such." The appointment as Acting Head Inspector is "vice Mr. R. O. Maxwell, resigned." Nobody had heard of the latter gentleman's appointment, he having never assumed the duties, but we learn that it had been made and accepted and afterwards resigned. There could be no serious objection to Mr. Ord's selection as a simple Inspector, but the interests involved in the acting appointment tacked on to it are so weighty, affecting as it does every member of the community by its influence on the morale of the entire police force, that we can only regard it with the utmost astonishment. We do not know who is chargeable with this palpable piece of nepotism, but we think the matter of so grave importance that it is time steps were taken by the public to put a check upon this description of generosity with the public money, that has become too much the fashion in the colony; while deserving officers of long and faithful service are over-riden by unfledged youths, whose only qualification is that they happen to have a friend near headquarters.

Touching appointments, which have been so profusely dealt in lately, with no very satisfactory result to any one concerned, we are enabled to state that Major Gray has been appointed by the Secretary of State to be Superintendent of the Singapore Gaol, and that the Rev. Arthur Fearon has been appointed Chaplain of Penang. These appointments will undergo no revision, coming as they do from the fountain head of patronage. With respect to the clerical appointment announced, it is satisfactory to find that the spiritual requirements of Penang have the earnest regard of Her Majesty's Secretary of State, and we trust the restless community of that Island will duly appreciate the attention. The nomination of Major Gray to the Superintendence of the Singapore Gaol has no doubt been made with a full consideration of the requirements necessary in the appointee to this important office, but we question if the Commission now deliberating on Prison Arrangements will feel much flattered by a nomination which clearly places no account upon what their recommendations may be.

The steamer *Batavia*, pioneer of the Messrs. Rubattino's line between this part of the world and Genoa, has called here en route to Batavia, and will call again on her return voyage. Should the venture prove encouraging, we look for the establishment of a regular line of steamers on this route.

A Marine Court of Inquiry has been held at Penang, to investigate the loss of the British barque *Albatross*, off Atchin. The Court was composed of Captain D. T. Hatchell, Magistrate of Police, President, assisted by Messrs. Fox and Eaglesham as Nautical Assessors. After going through the evidence adduced in the case, the captain and officers had their certificates returned to them.

A meeting of the Singapore Sporting Club has been held at the Exchange Room, at which it was decided to hold an autumn race meeting in the first week in November next. A programme is now in course of preparation by the stewards.

Commercial Report.

(For dates see first page.)

IMPORTS.

YOKOHAMA.—The slight improvement noticed in last report had made further progress, and a considerably better demand had been experienced for Yarns at higher rates, the rise having been most noticeable in 28/22s Shirtings had likewise advanced, 9 lbs. having attracted most attention. Indigo Shirtings, Cotton Sateens, and Turkey Reds, had been more asked for. Velvets were quieter, and Taffachelass showed some recovery from previous low rates. In Woollens, best qualities of Black Lustres and Italian Cloth were more easily saleable, and Mousselines continued in good demand. Blankets of lighter weights had been inquired for and in Cloth more business had been done at the low rates ruling. There was no change to notice in Metals, and transactions had been unimportant. Holders of good brand Nail rod Iron refused the low offers that were made.

HIOGO-OSAKA.—The Chamber of Commerce report says:—There has been a somewhat better demand for goods, and transactions have been upon a larger scale, although no important advance in values can be advised as yet. Cottons.—Grey Shirtings: Deliveries have improved considerably, and an advance of 5 cents per piece has been established, 9 lbs. goods are enquired for. Turkey Reds: Prices have recovered somewhat from the low point previously reached, but do not yet afford much temptation to holders. Black Velvets are likewise rather firmer. Victoria Lawns may be considered out of season. Worsteds and Woollens.—The approach of the Autumn has drawn the

attention of the dealers to Black Lastings, Orleans and Checked Lustres, but the prices offered so far have not induced much business. Plain Mousselines de Laine have been taken. Iron continues in heavy stock, with limited demand.

CHEKPOO.—Messrs. Wilson, Cornabe, and Co. report:—Our last Circular was issued on the 5th July, and we now beg to continue our market advices. Cotton Goods: Owing to the wet and unfavourable weather we have had during the past month, there has been no business whatever effected in either Grey Shirtings or T-Cloths, but as we close a better feeling is becoming apparent, and we hope to see a better business done shortly. Drills and other Plain Cottons have equally shared the prevailing dullness. Woollen Goods have not been inquired after, but as milder weather will soon be setting in, we trust ere long to see some demand. Metals; Stocks of all kinds of Iron are very heavy, with no demand whatever, and prices are quite nominal. Lead is in fair inquiry, but as supplies are coming in rather freely, we look for a decline in value.

NEWCHWANG.—Messrs. Bush Bros. report: Manufactures had been in good demand. Ordinary 8½ lbs. Grey Shirtings were quoted Tls. 1.63 to 1.65; 8 lbs. T-Cloths, Tls. 1.59 to 1.61.

CHINKIANG.—Messrs. Spencer and Wolff write:—Our Piece Goods market has recovered from its late depressed state, and goods have been placed at a marked advance on last quotations. Drills are being inquired for, but there are hardly any in stock.

SHANGHAI.—There had been a continuous improvement in the market, and prices of both Cottons and Woollens—especially Grey Shirtings and T-Cloths—showed considerable advance. The demand had been active throughout, and there were signs of further improvement at the close.

BANGKOK.—With the exception of a decline of 5 Tic. per bale in the value of No. 18-24s Grey Twist, and a rise of Tic. ¼ per piece on 6lbs. and 7 lbs. T-Cloths, there had been no change in quotations; 6 lbs. and 7 lbs. T-Cloths, were quite out of stock for the moment, and Tic. 2½ and Tic. 2¼ would be paid for first arrivals.

MANILA.—There had been little or no change in the tone of the market, and quotations remained without alteration.

EXPORTS.

TEA.

YOKOHAMA.—Since the 9th Aug. business had continued active, settlements for the period amounting to about 12,000 piculs. Although prices had been somewhat irregular, an advance of quite \$1 per picul upon last quotations must be noted. The Thomas A. Goddard had sailed for New York, leaving the H. A. Litchfield, Mercury, Oleander, and Ukraine, (sailing vessels,) on the berth, also the Lothair, expected from Hiogo. The P.M.S. City of Tokio, and O. and O. steamer Oceanic were fully engaged. The following cargoes, amounting to 1,259,734 lbs., had been despatched:—Per s.s. Gaelic, August 15—316,945 lbs. to New York, 135,697 lbs. to San Francisco, 13,794 lbs. to Boston, 60,970 lbs. to Chicago, 3,850 lbs. to St. Louis, 5,620 lbs. to Detroit, 42,029 lbs. to Montreal. Per barque Thomas A. Goddard, Aug. 17—670,029 lbs. to New York (also 2,072 lbs. Tea Dust). Per s.s. Malacca, August 18—10,800 lbs. to England. Quotations:—Common, \$22 to 24 per picul; good common, \$25 to 27; medium, \$28 to 31; good medium, \$32 to 34; fine, \$36 to 38; finest, \$39 to 42; choice, \$45. Export from 1st May to date 6,885,039 lbs.

HIOGO-OSAKA.—An active business had been transacted since the 19th July, and settlements are returned as 11,700 piculs, a considerable portion of which had been purchases made for shipment to Yokohama and Nagasaki. At the close buyers seemed less disposed to pay the rates demanded by the dealers and there was a smaller business doing. Total settlements to the 16th August 32,700 piculs, against 28,450 piculs at the corresponding period last year. Stocks were reduced to about 2,500 piculs, consisting of common to good medium grades principally. The s.s. Galley of Lorne left for Shanghai on the 8th August, after taking in some 125 tons for New York via Suez. The British ship Lothair sailed on the 18th August for Yokohama, where she would complete loading for New York.

SHANGHAI.—There had been a considerable business in Congou, at about last week's quotations. Buying had been chiefly in the grades between Tls. 18 to 20, and good value had been obtained in these classes. Common kinds at Tls. 18 up were perhaps slightly firmer, but the market closed quiet. No third crops had yet arrived. Settlements for the week—18,328 chests at Tls. 15 to 26; stock—31,720 chests. Green: There had been only a moderate demand for Pingsueys, and prices were unchanged. Business had commenced in Teenkais, four chops having been settled at Tls. 28½ to 36. These purchases had been made apparently for shipment per P. M. S. mail, and there was not much disposition amongst the buyers to continue operations at opening rates. Total Settlements of Green Tea, to date, were less than half what they were at the same time last year. Settlements for the week—Fychow, Teenkai, &c., Tls. 27½ to 29½, 3,120 ¼-chests; Pingsuey, Tls. 20 to 35½, 7,948 ¼-chests; total 11,068 ¼-chests; total stock, 50,090 ¼-chests. Export to Great Britain to date—

| | 1875-1876. | 1874-1875. |
|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Black | 48,023,449 lbs. against | 44,968,362 lbs. |
| Green | 1,246,490 „ „ | 1,870,943 „ |

49,269,939 „ „ 46,839,305 „

FOOCHOW.—Messrs. Westall, Galton, and Co.'s Weekly Letter says:—Owing to the continued bad news received from London, the quiet tone noticed last week still prevails, and buying for that market has been on a very limited scale. The settlements of Congou only amount to some 13,000 chests, of which more than half is intended for the Colonies and the Cape of Good Hope. Congou: During the past week tea men have displayed more disposition to meet buyers, especially in good common kinds, in which a slight decline is noticeable. None of the third crop country teas have yet arrived, and holders, with the present large stock on hand, are endeavouring to strengthen the market by

delaying them as much as possible. Souchong: Only a very trifling business has been passing. Oolong: Two small parcels have found buyers at former rates. Flowery Pekoe: Several chops have been settled, very full prices being paid. Scented Teas.—Purchases show no change. The export to date to Great Britain, the Continent of Europe and the Cape of Good Hope amounts to 33,055,193 lbs., against 29,635,942 lbs. last year; to America, 87,555 lbs., against 154,936 lbs. last year; to the colonies, 8,512,582 lbs., against 7,177,894 lbs. last year.

SILK.

YOKOHAMA.—The market had continued active since last Circular. Some superior parcels of hank Silks having arrived, a higher range of prices had been paid, and for these sorts the demand continued good. The pretensions of holders for medium grades (which as yet showed little improvement in quality) and the unfavourable tenor of late home advices had curtailed business at the close. Supplies had come forward freely. Settlements, from 1st July to date, 1,250 bales, against corresponding period, season 1874-5, 950; do., 1873-4, 2,200; do., 1872-3, 4,200.

SHANGHAI.—There had been another comparatively quiet week in the market, buying being confined to a few hands, and holders showing no signs of weakness as yet. Common and Market Tsatlees had been principally dealt in at from Tls. 275 to 290 per picul, and settlements for the mail were estimated at about 1,800 bales, giving a total of 25,000 since the 1st June, against 24,200 bales last year. Best descriptions of Tsatlees had been neglected and were less firmly held; but for all kinds of Taysams and for Hangchow Tsatlees very full rates were demanded, especially for the latter, which were the dearest Silks in the market. The unsold stock was estimated at 18,000 bales. About 350 bales of re-reels had been settled, chiefly medium to common classes, at rather higher rates. The better and extra grades being partially neglected had been taken at slightly reduced prices.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK, SEASON 1874-75.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

| Date. | TEA. | | | | | SILK |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|-------|
| | From Shang-hai and Hankow | From Foo-chow. | From Amoy. | From Canton, Macao, &c. | Total lbs. | |
| From June 1, 1875, to Aug. 13, 1875 | 46149880 | 30237364 | 729887 | 8461019 | 85507150 | 10320 |
| From June 1, 1874, to Aug. 13, 1874 | 45673528 | 31803545 | 998219 | 9465369 | 87210661 | 14203 |

TO THE CONTINENT.

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|-------|
| From June 1, 1875, to Aug. 13, 1875 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8694418 | 16062 |
| Do. do. 1874, to Aug. 13, 1874 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3865953 | 7793 |

TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|------|
| From June 1, 1875, to Aug. 13, 1875 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8765419 | 1081 |
| Do. do. 1874, to Aug. 13, 1874 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7071430 | 917 |

TO AUSTRALIA.

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|--|
| From June 1, 1875, to Aug. 13, 1875 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8,608,360 | |
| Do. do. 1874, to Aug. 13, 1874 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7,431,767 | |

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

| From | Tea—lbs. | Silk, bales China & Japan. | From | Tea—lbs. | Silk, bales China & Japan. |
|--------------|-------------|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| 1843 to 1844 | 51,022,600 | ... | 1864 to 1865 | 151,236,870 | 32,313 |
| 1845 to 1846 | 57,334,200 | 19,600 | 1865 to 1866 | 116,333,042 | 32,890 |
| 1846 to 1847 | 63,972,000 | 22,144 | 1866 to 1867 | 118,423,290 | 50,052 |
| 1847 to 1848 | 77,327,800 | 61,283 | 1867 to 1868 | 116,890,430 | 57,149 |
| 1848 to 1849 | 92,240,300 | 50,481 | 1868 to 1869 | 142,789,604 | 70,917 |
| 1849 to 1850 | 76,990,255 | 68,315 | 1869 to 1870 | 139,740,193 | 63,807 |
| 1850 to 1851 | 65,789,792 | 83,134 | 1870 to 1871 | 131,269,850 | 51,329 |
| 1851 to 1852 | 85,560,452 | 64,169 | 1871 to 1872 | 149,774,395 | 54,589 |
| 1852 to 1853 | 90,066,160 | 70,644 | 1872 to 1873 | 151,869,262 | 57,263 |
| 1853 to 1854 | 109,854,040 | 79,199 | 1873 to 1874 | 144,588,620 | 47,373 |
| 1854 to 1855 | 121,273,580 | 72,887 | 1874 to 1875 | 161,964,477 | 85,109 |
| 1855 to 1856 | 117,463,586 | 46,603 | | | |

* Including the Continent.

EXCHANGES, & c.

(For dates see first page.)

ON LONDON.

| At | Bank Bills. | Credits. | Documentary. |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Yokohama, 6 m.s. | 4s. 1½d. | 4s. 1½d. | 4s. 2d. |
| Shanghai | 5s. 7½d. to 5s. 8d. | 5s. 8½d. to 5s. 9½d. | 5s. 8½d. |
| Canton | 4s. 1d. | 4s. 1½d. | 4s. 1½d. |
| Hong Kong | 4s. 1½d. | 4s. 1½d. | 4s. 1½d. |
| Macao | 4s. 1½d. | 4s. 1½d. | 4s. 1½d. |
| Singapore | 4s. 0½d. to 4s. 0½d. | 4s. 0½d. to 4s. 0½d. | 4s. 1½d. |
| Manila | 4s. 0½d. to 4s. 0½d. | 4s. 0½d. to 4s. 0½d. | 4s. 1½d. |

MISCELLANEOUS.

| | At Shanghai. | At Hong Kong. |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Bills on India | Rs. 305 to Rs. 306½ | 220½ |
| " Hong Kong | 27½ to 28½ dis. | — |
| Bar silver | Tls. 111.2.5 | 9 prem. |
| Mexican dollars | 72.6.5 | nominal. |

SHARES AT HONG KONG.

| |
|---|
| Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 26 per cent. dis. |
| Hong Kong Gas Company, \$75 per share. |
| Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, 40 per cent. discount. |
| China Traders' Insurance Company, \$1000 per share. |
| Hotel Shares, 57½ per cent. discount. |
| Hong Kong and Macao Steamboat Company, 23 per cent. discount. |
| Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$390 premium. |
| Union Insurance Society, \$500 per share. |
| China and Japan Marine Insurance Company, Tls. 90 per share. |
| China Fire Insurance Company, \$35 premium. |
| Victoria Fire Insurance Company, \$167 per share. |
| Chinese Insurance Company, \$300 per share. |
| Shanghai Steam Navigation Company, Tls. 61 per share. |

* * The latest quotations by telegram for six m.s. bank bills are at Shanghai 5s. 7½d. at Hong Kong 4s. 1d., at Singapore 4s. 1½d.

SHANGHAI SHARES AND STOCKS.

| Shares. | Paid up. | Latest Qtn. | Last Divd. |
|---------------------------------|------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Shanghai Dock Company | Tls. 500 | Tls. 500 | Tls. 210 Tls. 20 p.sh |
| Shanghai Gas Company | 100 | 100 | 133 ... 11 p.c. |
| Shanghai S.N. Company | 100 | 100 | 61 ... 7 p.c. |
| S. Tug and Lighter Company | 850 | 850 | 600 ... 12 p.c. |
| French Gas Company | 50 | 50 | 72 ... 11 p.c. |
| Hong K. Fire Insurance Co. | \$1,000 | \$200 | \$490 \$51½ p.sh. |
| North China Insurance Co. | Tls. 2,000 | Tls. 600 | 775 ... |
| Union S.N. Company | 100 | 50 | 21 ... |
| Yangtze Ins. Association | 500 | 500 | \$515 ... 15 p.c. |
| Union Insurance Society | \$2,500 | \$500 | \$500 ... |
| China Traders Co. (Limited) | 5,000 | 1,000 | 875 \$150 p.sh |
| China and Japan Marine Ins. Co. | Tls. 500 | Tls. 100 | Tls. 92 |
| Victoria Fire Insurance Co. | \$500 | \$100 | \$167 ... 12 p.c. |
| China Fire Insurance Co. | 500 | 100 | 134 ... 12 p.c. |
| Hongkew Wharf Co. | Tls. 100 | Tls. 100 | Tls. 86 ... 5 p.c. |

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London, Aug. 18, Flintshire (str.).
At HIOGO.—From London, Aug. 2, Argyl (str.); 4, Duke of Abercorn; from Liverpool, 7, Spirit of the Age.
At SHANGHAI.—From London, Sept. 30, Fleurs Castle (str.); from Liverpool, Patroclus (str.).
At HONG KONG.—From London, Aug. 17, Lucia; Sept. 24, Glenearn, (str.); 28, John C. Monroe; from Cardiff, 29, Eugenie; from Shields, Solsterk.
At MANILA.—From Liverpool, Aug. 5, Buenaventura (str.); from Cadiz, 13, Vicenta; from Cape Town, 14, Cicilie.
At BANGKOK.—From London, Aug. 8, Ellen Rickmers; from Hamburg, July 25, Broderne.
At SINGAPORE.—From London, Aug. 22, Bristow; from Sunderland, 25, Maid of AIn; from Newcastle, 26th, Nehemiah Gibson; from Algoa Bay, 21, Bedfordshire; from Mauritius, 24, Elizabeth Ann; from London, &c., Sept. 29, Gordon Castle (str.).

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—For New York, Aug. 17, T. A. Goddard.
From HIOGO.—For London, Aug. 3, Argyl (str.).
From SHANGHAI.—For Callao, Aug. 10, John Parker.
From HONG KONG.—For Cape of Good Hope, Aug. 20, Marie.
From MANILA.—For London, Aug. 9, Cornuvia, for Channel, f.o.; July 31, Assyrian; for San Francisco, Aug. 5, George Moon; for West Coast of Africa, 8, Abeille.
From BANGKOK.—For London, July 29, Karikal; for Marseilles, Aug. 7, Orbe.
From SINGAPORE.—For Rio Janeiro, Aug. 25, Birdstone; for London, Sept. 25, Scotland (str.); for New York, 24, Galley of Lorne (str.).

TELEGRAMS FROM THE FAR EAST.

THE DIFFICULTY WITH CHINA

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

SHANGHAI, SEPT. 27.—The final answer of the Chinese Government to the demands of Mr. Wade in reference to the murder of Mr. Margary is expected to be given by the end of the month.

SHANGHAI, SEPT. 28.—Admiral Ryder and four British men-of-war are at Chefoo.

SHANGHAI, SEPT. 30.—Mr. Wade has intimated to the Chinese Government that if his demands are not complied with to-day he will leave Peking.

(TIMES' TELEGRAM.)

SHANGHAI, SEPT. 27.—The Chinese Government shun effectual performance of the terms laid down at Tientsin. Mr. Wade leaves Peking on the 13th October, unless a satisfactory settlement is conceded. The punishment of the Yunnan officials and publication of foreign affairs in the Gazette are reported as the chief difficulties.

MURDER BY CHINESE SEAMEN.

BERLIN, SEPT. 30.—The Foreign-office has received a telegram from the German Consul at Amoy, dated yesterday, stating that Captain Gerwitz and the mate of the German schooner *Anna* had been murdered at sea near Foochow by the Chinese crew of the ship. Nothing is as yet known as to what has become of the vessel itself. The German gunboat *Cylop* left Amoy yesterday for Foochow.

THE MAILS.

HEAVY PORTION OF LAST INWARD MAIL.—GIBRALTAR, SEPT. 28.—The P. and O. Company's steamer Cathay, with the India, China, and Australia (heavy) mails from Port Said 20th inst. left at 4 P.M. for Southampton, where she may be expected on the 3rd October.

INWARD MAIL, DUE OCTOBER 25.—GALLE, SEPT. 30.—The P. and O. Company's steamer Surat, with the China and Australia mails, leaves for Suez to-day. Australian gold for Europe, £680,000.

HEAVY PORTION OF LAST OUTWARD MAIL.—GIBRALTAR, SEPT. 28.—The P. and O. Company's steamer Poonah, from Southampton 23rd inst., arrived at 11 A.M., and left at 5 P.M. for Malta and Port Said.

OUTWARD MAIL OF AUG. 20.—SHANGHAI, SEPT. 30.—The P. and O. Company's steamer Teheran, with the London mails of Aug. 20, has arrived here.

SHIPPING POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT IN THE TABLES.—Sept. 28, at Falmouth, from Akyab, Vega; from Rangoon, Famiglia Prima; from Manila, Angostura; from Akyab, Cavallo Marino; 26, at Marseilles, from Singapore, Hesperia; at Hamburg, from Rangoon, Alaricus; 29, at London, from Rangoon, Quattro, Nina Sheldon; 28, at Falmouth, Angiolina; 26, at Bremen, Kate Covert, Tommaso, Venezia; from Bassein, Ydun; 28, at Liverpool, from Rangoon, Wild Deer; 30, at Falmouth, from Akyab, La Sophia, Stavanger; Oct. 1, off Deal, from Colombo, Lota; at London, from Penang, Brisbane; at Plymouth, from Bassein, Alpi; at Falmouth, from Rangoon, Matteo; August, — at Queenstown, from Bassein, Britomart.

DEPARTURES.—Sept. 26, from Hamburg, for Hong Kong, Formosa; 28, from Shields, for Singapore, Poseidon; 29, from London, for Shanghai, Galatea (str.); 27, from Bremen, for Rangoon, Charlotte; Aug. 26, from Rio Janeiro, for Batavia, Trinidad; Sept. 4, Lieutenant, for Hong Kong, Carolus Magnus; Oct. 1, from Cardiff, for Singapore, Guiseppe Padre.

SPOKEN.—Bastian Pot, from Falmouth to Singapore, Sept. 6, 13 1 N., 26 34 W.; Amsterdam, from Liverpool to Singapore, Aug. 22, 12 N., 26 W.; Adolf, from Hamburg to Batavia, Aug. 5, 10 N. 27 W.; Eve, from Bordeaux to Reunion, Sept. 6, 8 N., 25 W.; Monte Rosa, from Sunda to Liverpool, Sept. 10, 34 N., 36 W.; Berryer, from Bordeaux to Reunion, Sept. 1, 13 N., 29 W.; N. Boynton, from Singapore to Boston, Aug. 25, 17 S., 3 W.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Passed Gibraltar, Sept. 27, Hampton (str.), from Rotterdam, for Batavia; the Lord of the Isles, from Shanghai, for London, arrived at Suez on the 29th Sept.; the Tom Morton (str.), from Foochow, arrived at Aden on Sept. 27, and proceeded same day for London. The master, Lashbrooke, of the Boldon, from Singapore, which arrived here yesterday, was washed overboard on the 6th of July. Cape Town, sailed Aug. 25, for Anjer, Confluentia; for Batavia, Barbadian; East London, 25, sailed for Java, Sea Form. Port Elizabeth, Aug. 31.—The repairs to the Tecumseh are being rapidly effected. The master is advertising for a loan of £3,000 or £4,000 in bottomry. Aden, Sept. 18.—The Thingvalla (Dan. str.), from Antwerp to Singapore and China, with iron and a general cargo, put back to this port, Sept. 12, with three blades of her propeller gone. It will be necessary to replace the propeller by a spare one on board. When this vessel arrived here originally on the 6th Sept., the master found that two blades or portions of them had been knocked off, but the vessel proceeded, intending to change the screw at Singapore. She, however, fell in with heavy weather off Socotra, and lost the third blade, when it was thought advisable to bear up.

CASUALTIES.—The Zodiac, from Padang, whilst beating up for the anchorage on the 3rd inst., broke her maintopgallantyard, carrying away misentopmast with it. The Nieuwland, from Batavia, arrived here, reports very heavy weather on the 8th, 9th, and 10th August, lat. 35 S., lon. 27 E., was obliged to run back 100 miles to the N.E., under double-reefed topsails and foresail, as the vessel could not withstand the force of the gale; lost bulwarks, &c., and sustained slight damage to bows.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

BECKETT.—On the 9th Aug., at Shanghai, Mrs. Beckett, of a daughter.

BURNETT.—On the 30th Sept., at Croydon, Surrey, the wife of George H. Burnett, of a son.

COOPER.—On the 10th Aug., at the British Consulate, Shanghai, Mrs. Cooper, of a son.

GENTLE.—On the 25th Aug., at Fern Hill, Singapore, the wife of Alex. Gentle, of a daughter.

KINDBLAD.—On the 3rd Aug., at Shanghai, the wife of A. W. Kindblad, I. M. Customs, of a son.

LAIRD.—On the 28th Sept., at Birkenhead, the wife of William Laird, of a daughter.

MARSHALL.—On the 14th Aug., at Hiogo, Japan, the wife of J. Marshall, of a son, stillborn.

PLUNKET.—On the 24th Aug., at the Stadt House, Malacca, the Hon. Mrs. Plunket, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BATES—MEDHURST.—On the 30th Sept., at the Parish Church of West Teignmouth, by the Rev. E. J. Hillier, Vicar of Cardington, Bedfordshire, assisted by the Rev. W. Laidley, Vicar of the parish, the Rev. Jonathan Bates, Rector of Kirestead, Norfolk, to Augusta Liberte, youngest daughter of the late Dr. Medhurst, of China.

GREEN—GREEN.—On the 30th Sept., at St. Mary's Church, Scarborough, by the Venerable Archdeacon Blunt, Octavius Green, youngest son of the late Philip James Green, of Boyne House, Notting-hill, London, to Augusta Eleanor Isabella, youngest daughter of Sir John Green, C.B., late Her Majesty's Diplomatic Agent in Roumania.

WINDRAM—SPINK.—On the 28th Aug., at St. Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta, by the Rev. A. N. W. Spens, James Windram, of the National Bank of India, to Ellen Beaufort, second daughter of William Spink, Calcutta.

DEATHS.

BARTON.—On the 4th Aug., at Nagasaki, Augusta S. Barton, the beloved wife of Zeph. Barton, of Shanghai, aged 39 years.

KIRSCHSTEIN.—On the 6th Aug., at Chefoo, Erdman Tiergen Kirschstein, aged one year and fourteen days.

LOUTTIT.—On the 25th Sept., at Notting-hill, Samuel John Louttit, Controller of Accounts Tea and East India Department H.M. Customs, aged 63.

MEADOWS.—On the 3rd Aug., at Tientsin, suddenly, John Armstrong Taylor Meadows, aged 58.

NORTHMORE.—On the 1st Sept., at Colombo, Ceylon, Harriet Olympia Northmore, wife of John Northmore, of Cleve House, near Exeter, aged 30 years.

PATTERSON.—On the 23rd Sept., while serving in Burma, Captain C. D. Patterson, 1st Battalion 21st Fusiliers, only son of Talbot Patterson, of Melville, Bideford.

PETERSON.—On the 9th Aug., at Nagasaki, Hans Martin Peterson, of Droak, Norway, aged 43 years.

WELSH.—On the 18th Aug., at Yokohama, Edward Welsh, aged three months, son of David Welsh.

Literature.

L'Art Khmer. 'Etude Historique sur les Monuments de l'Ancien Cambodge. Par la Comte DE CROIZIER. Paris: E. LEROUX 1875.

Indo-China is, without doubt, one of the least known regions of Asia, but without having as yet been able to decipher the enigma of the revolutions by which it has been overwhelmed, we are beginning now-a-days to get together some data with regard to its ancient civilisation, and as in those countries where written tradition has most frequently disappeared through the agency of constant political troubles, and where oral tradition, when it exists at all, does so in a garbled shape, so in Indo-China we can only turn to stone monuments and their inscriptions for information. Such, in brief, is the opinion of M. de Croizier, and such is the riddle to the solution of which he has devoted several years of his life. The volume before us contains an interesting and most painstaking *résumé* of the results of his labours, and it will be perused with much pleasure and profit by all who are desirous of obtaining trustworthy information on that branch of Oriental art, which is now beginning to attract attention among the lovers of Fine Art.

M. de Croizier divides his modest and unpretending work into four main parts. The first part he calls *Etude Historique*; in Chapter I. he treats of our acquaintance with Cambodia previous to 1861; Chapter II. is devoted to the labours of Henri Mouhot, who, in 1861, discovered afresh the ruins of the ancient Khmer civilisation, and made known "the existence of Angkor-Thom, the ancient capital of the Khmers, and of Angkor-Wat, the Jerusalem of Buddhism." Chapter III. contains some notes respecting "*Explorations Diverses*;" and Chapter IV. an account of Captain de Lagrée's expedition; with him, it will be remembered, there were associated Lieutenants Garnier and Delaporte, Drs. Thorel and Joubert, and the Vicomte de Carné. Chapter V. reproduces from the *Journal Officiel* the principal passages from the official report of Lieut. Delaporte's subsequent explorations; and Chapter VI. contains some remarks on the Musée Khmer which has been formed at Compiègne from the specimens of various kinds collected by that industrious officer and other savants. In the second part of his work M. de Croizier furnishes a general sketch of the monuments, and describes the materials of which they are composed, the processes of their construction, &c.; and in the third part we have a complete list of the Khmer monuments found up to the present time. The fourth and concluding part contains a detailed catalogue of the contents of the Musée Khmer, which has found a temporary home in the Palace of Compiègne, but which it is intended eventually to transfer to the Louvre. Annexed to this is a map of Southern Indo-China (*ancien royaume Khmer*), on which are indicated by figures the positions in which the various groups of Khmer monuments have been discovered. The volume also contains a portrait of Lieut. Delaporte, together with a few illustrations.

The author of the work noticed above has also in preparation for issue by the same firm *Légendes Indo-Chinoises, relatives aux Monuments de Pierres, de l'Ancien Cambodge, et Premier Recueil d'Inscriptions Khmer, publiées en Europe* (83 planches).

Canton and the Bogue—A Narrative of Six Eventful Months in China. By WALTER WILLIAM MUNDY.

The above little work, published by Tinsley, does not pretend to give any exhaustive views upon China affairs, the residence of the writer having, of course, been of a too short duration to enable him to form such matured opinions as are necessary for a thorough exposition of matters in that much misunderstood country; but it will be useful in calling attention to some points in connection with it which are of special interest at the present time. A considerable portion of the book is taken up by a description of the journey and other kindred matters, which, though they are of interest to home readers, will, of course, be of little moment to those in China. A well-merited tribute paid to the Messageries Maritimes steamers for the excellent manner in which they are managed is, however, worthy of note. Mr. Mundy, it may be recollected, was the gentleman whose nearly lost life in the attack upon the steamer *Spark*, and the chief interest in China will be centred upon the account given of this lamentable affair. Mr. Mundy, among other facts of importance as elucidating the matter, expresses a strong opinion that although the captain was reported to have made a strong resistance he was really attacked in his own cabin, and taken completely by surprise, as Mr. Mundy saw him "only a few minutes after the commencement stretched on the floor of his cabin dead, looking so placid as to make it evident that death had been sudden and without pain." The writer follows up his narrative of the

attack by a general disquisition upon pirates in the China Seas, and justly complains that the Hoppo's gunboats are employed exclusively in matters of revenue, often to the detriment of our trade in Hong Kong, instead of being actively engaged in hunting out and putting down these pests of the China waters. The volume concludes with a description of the Typhoon of 1874, and some sensible remarks on the present condition of foreigners in China. The writer says that the insecurity and the uncertainty of approaching events had greatly increased since his departure, and the latest accounts by telegram certainly go to prove that the apprehensions generally felt were by no means groundless.

A valuable present has been made to the Library of the India-Office by H. E. Iwakura, Chief of the Japanese Embassy which visited England a few years ago, in the form of a Chinese version of the Buddhist Scriptures. The work is so large that it is packed in seven boxes weighing about $3\frac{1}{2}$ tons, and will require a room to itself. The work will offer to the student an almost inexhaustible source of original information on this interesting and important subject.

Mr. Edward Duffield Jones, M.A., late of the Consular Service in China, contributes a paper to the *Sunday Magazine* for October on "The Chinese: Their Religion and Social Condition."

Messrs. Chapman and Hall will shortly publish *The Rambles of a Globe-Trotter in Australia, Japan, China, Java, India, and Cashmere*, by Mr. E. K. Laird.

Naval and Military.

The following is a list of the vessels comprising the force stationed in China at the present moment, under the command of Vice-Admiral A. P. Ryder:—Audacious, 14, armour-plated ship, Captain P. H. Colomb (flag-ship); Charybdis, 17, Captain T. E. Smith; Modeste, 14, screw-corvette, Captain A. Buller; Thalia, 6, Captain H. B. Woolcombe; Egeria, 4, Commander R. L. Turton; Ringdove, 3, Commander U. C. Singleton; Curlew, 3, Commander E. J. Church; Lapwing, 3, Commander Sir William Wiseman, Bart.; Dwarf, 4, Commander Hon. E. S. Dawson; Hornet, 4, Commander Grosvenor Stopford; Midge, 4, Commander J. F. G. Grant; Thistle, 4, Commander Francis Stirling; Growler, 4, Commander Walter Stewart; Hart, 4, Commander T. H. Royle; Frolic, 4, Commander C. E. Buckle; Fly, 4, Commander John Bruce; Kestrel, 1, Commander Charles B. Theobald; Mosquito, 4, Lieutenant R. H. Paul; Swinger, 4, Lieutenant E. A. Bolitho; Vigilant, 2, Lieutenant H. C. D. Ryder, despatch-vessel; and the Victor Emmanuel, 2, screw line-of-battle-ship, Commodore John E. Parish—in all a force of 21 ships, of 2,003 officers and men, and 112 guns.

With reference to the sentence of the Court-martial upon Brevet-Colonel Burton, the *United Service Gazette* says:—Thus closes a case which all friends and well-wishers of the gallant Royal Marine Light Infantry cannot but regret was ever brought before the public, showing, as it has done, a condition of things in the corps most hurtful to discipline, and altogether at variance with that esprit and gentlemanlike tone which should prevail amongst officers. The case was beset with difficulties on all sides, and every one must be glad to find that the Court has been enabled to discover a way out of them so little harmful to the officers concerned. Let us, however, hope that while the court-martial will not be without good results, the personal feeling it has engendered will now be buried.

A correspondent at Hong Kong writes under date Aug. 21:—Her Majesty's ships of war in harbour are the Egeria, Growler, Midge, Modeste, and Ringdove. Her Majesty's ship Ringdove went out on the 16th of Aug. for a cruise and quarterly gun practice, and returned to harbour on the 20th Aug. Lieut. J. F. Bedford, appointed to Her Majesty's ship Audacious for special surveying service, arrived per P. and O. steamer Surat on the 15th of Aug. Lieut. C. G. Prater, acting first lieutenant of Her Majesty's ship Victor Emmanuel, has been ordered to join Her Majesty's ship Audacious. Capt. and Brevet-Major Rowland, 80th Regiment, has two months' leave of absence from Aug. 16 to Oct. 16 to Japan, upon the recommendation of a medical board.

Colonel Stokes, C.B., R.E., has been nominated to succeed Colonel Gallway as Director of the School of Military Engineering at Chatham. Colonel Stokes was the first member appointed by England on the International Commission for improving the Mouths of the Danube, and he held that office during the whole period of the execution of those most important works. He was afterwards a member of the Commission to Regulate the Suez Canal Dues, and is at present Commanding Royal Engineer at Chatham.

The Boxer, 4, composite screw gunboat, Lieutenant Commanding William Collins, has arrived from the Pacific station, and is now at Sheerness, where she will be paid off. She left Esquimaux harbour on January 3, and arrived at Callao on April 10. After a very long voyage she reached the Azores on September 11, and left the next day for Plymouth. She had sailed over 23,500 miles on the passage home.

The title of "Controller," at present held by the chief of the Control Department at Woolwich, Captain Gordon, will shortly be abolished and replaced by the title of "Commissary-General of Ordnance." It is also expected that General Campbell, at present known as "Director-General of Artillery and Stores," will simply be entitled "Director-General of Artillery."

A telegram reports that Chief Engineer James Dalton, Engineer W. P. Davis, and three stokers have been killed by a boiler explosion on board the sloop Dryad, now on the North American station. No particulars of the disaster have yet been received.

The gunboat Lily arrived at Malta on the 21st ult., from England, en route to the China station. She had some repairs made, and all defects made good, and started again on the 27th ult. for Aden.

Miscellaneous.

MACHINERY FOR CHINA.

Messrs. Thomas Shanks and Co., of Johnstone, near Glasgow, have within the last few weeks completed the construction of two large and powerful machines to the order of the Chinese Government, for the manipulation of armour plates. The first is a double shaping machine, from the same design as that lately supplied by the same firm to Her Majesty's Dockyard at Pembroke. The bed of the machine is 26 feet long, carried on four massive standards, which also form the groundwork on which to place the armour plates. Four stationary standards fixed to the bed, and four sliding on the ground standards, and fitted with adjustable screws, afford the means of setting the plate in position, and also receiving the thrust of cutting. The bed is fitted with two saddles and shaping tool bars with variable stroke up to 30 inches. The tool bars are placed on edge, and are carried in guiding brackets made to angle above or below the horizontal line 15° ; these motions are all worked by worm and worm racks. The object in having the tools to angle is the chief feature in this machine, as the time required to plane angled or bevelled edge plates in an ordinary planing machine was very great, and entailed much expense. In this machine a plate can be shaped having the edge angled in either direction at the beginning of the cut; as the work progresses, the angle can be increased or decreased at pleasure, and ended with the angle the opposite to what it was begun. Having a maximum stroke of 30 inches enables the machine to shape two plates at the same time, each 15 inches thick. Both saddles are driven from the same shaft, but each is arranged with disengaging motion, so that they may be worked together or separately, or at any position on the bed desired; all the motions for disengaging and setting the saddles are worked from the front of the machine, under the control of the person in charge. This machine has been shipped by the *Braemar Castle*.

The other machine is a hydraulic armour-plate bending machine, with a capacity of 3,000 tons for bending plates up to 12 inches thick. The cylinder is composed entirely of homogeneous steel, the centre ring being left square to act as guides for the side-gripping plates which prevent the cylinder canting or tilting when indirect pressure is exerted. The top and bottom crossheads are castings of immense strength, and to ensure efficiency great attention was paid to the mixture of iron used; in this case it contained more than one-half Welsh cold blast. The columns are 12 inches diameter, and of sufficient length to admit of a plate being bent to a circle of 10 feet diameter. For raising or lowering the top crosshead and resisting the pressure the columns are arranged with nuts and jam-nuts above, while following nuts below enable the crosshead to be easily adjusted to any required height. The pumps are four in number, two large and two small; they are self-acting, so that when the large ones have brought the ram to bear on the plate they are thrown out of gear automatically, leaving the small ones to complete the pressure. In the case where plates are very thick they must be slightly heated before being put in the machine, not so much for the sake of making them easily bent, but to prevent the fibre of the iron being damaged. This machine will probably be shipped on board the *Glengyle*.

THE PRODUCE OF THE FAR EAST.

In a series of papers entitled "Under the Hammer," a writer in the current part of *All the Year Round* furnishes a mass of information relating to the valuable produce which is constantly passing through the Commercial Sale-Rooms in Mining-lane. We extract a few particulars respecting some of the drugs which come to this country from the Far East. Of musk the writer says:—"This drug arrives in its natural condition in small pouches, packed in tins or caddies, and often horribly adulterated. Downright fictitious musk is also sent to this country, the emptied pouches being refilled with abominable trash concocted for purposes of fraud by the 'heathen Chinese' and other child-like Orientals. A great quantity of genuine musk, however, comes from Tonquin, from Central Asia, and from the Indian Archipelago." Rhubarb has been grown from the earliest times in the western provinces of China, and has got the names of Turkey, Russian, and China rhubarb from the routes by which it reached our markets. "From the time of Marco Polo rhubarb found its way over the barren steppes of Central Asia, by Yarkand, Kashgar, and Turkestan to the Caspian and Black Seas, or by a southern deflection from that route by Bokhara and Afghanistan," and thence to Asia Minor and Alexandria. For this reason this got named Turkey rhubarb. "In 1653 China permitted Russia to trade on her frontiers, and the line of traffic was thenceforth diverted . . . taking its way from Tangut (now Kansuh) across the steppes of the high Gobi, and through Siberia to Moscow." The opening of the Chinese ports to foreign trade by the last Treaty of course soon destroyed Russia's previously large share of the rhubarb trade. From Cochin China and Siam gamboge is sent to "the Lane;" it is exhibited for sale in sticks, "showing the mark of the inside of the bamboo into which the gum, when liquid, was allowed to run."

CHINESE OIL-TREE.—In a paper addressed to the French Academy of Sciences, M. Cloetz treats of this tree, "*Elaeococca Vernicia*," or "Tong-yeon" in Chinese. It belongs to the family of Euphorbiaceae; its fruit is a nut containing several shells, in each of which there is a large seed covered with thick teguments. Under a strong pressure this seed will yield about 35 per cent. of its weight of a thick, colourless oil, having no smell and scarcely any taste. Its specific gravity is 0.9362; exposed to a cold of 18 degrees it will thicken, but not crystallise. By digestion with ether, the pounded seed will give about 41 per cent. of an oily liquid, differing but little from the other; but if, instead of employing ether as a solvent, we use purified sulphuret of carbon, the fatty matter, obtained after evaporating the sulphuret at 100 degrees, becomes solid in cooling, forming a number of pearls which under the microscope present a manifest crystalline structure; the mass melts at

32 deg. Centig. (89 Fahr.). M. Cloetz has ascertained that heat does not alone produce this difference between the two oils extracted, one by pressure, the other by the sulphuret. Another curious property of the oil extracted by the press is this, that it will quickly become solid under the influence of light alone, in the absence of air. It was interesting to ascertain whether this was a property belonging to white light only or whether the colours of the spectrum might perform the same office. M. Cloetz accordingly exposed the oil in closed tubes to different sights. At the end of the third day he found it had become solid under the white and the violet rays, but not under the yellow ones, where it was still liquid ten days after. Oil of *Elæococca* is the most drying one known.

A TELEGRAM received at Lloyd's states that a Siamese ship, the *Queen of England*, which left Hong Kong for Bangkok on the 8th of August, has since put back, the first mate having been murdered, and the captain wounded by Malay seamen.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, SEPT. 29.

We have had a stormy opening of the Session, and there is a general feeling in Parliament hostile towards the Cabinet. Singularly enough the attack in *optima forma* was made by the Lords, a fact perhaps unprecedented in our Parliamentary history. The question, about which the Cabinet was censured was a local one, and may be explained in a few words. For about thirty years there has been talk of a junction to be made at Rotterdam between the Dutch-Rhenish and the Dutch Railway. The managers of the first named company were averse to fulfilling their obligation by establishing the junction, notwithstanding that a capital of one million had been paid, as a guarantee that it should be done. Suddenly we hear that the Ministers of Finance and the Interior had concluded a contract releasing the Dutch Railway Company from its obligation, and that this sum of one million would be paid back. A storm of indignation thereupon arose in Rotterdam, and both the Ministers were attacked most vehemently. It so happened that the Members of the First Chamber met before those of the Second Chamber, and Mr. Duijmaer van Twist made himself the mouthpiece of the Opposition to censure the Ministers. The two days' debate ended last Saturday with a motion, adopted by 23 against 12 votes, stating that the Ministers had not acted in a way to promote the general interest of the country. Before the vote Mr. Van Twist, however, most positively stated that his action was not designed to serve any political motive. When the blow was given a sort of general consternation prevailed, because it was not quite clear what ought to be done. In the meanwhile the Address to the Speech from the Throne, which was voted in a hurry, was presented to his Majesty by a Commission appointed for this purpose. This task was by no means a pleasant one. It was evident that the King was offended, as he had never before answered so coolly and so short. What he said may be freely translated: "Thank you, and go home." A few days we lived in expectation of important events which might occur; but in yesterday's sitting of the Second Chamber Mr. Heemskerk stated that he and his colleagues had asked for their dismissal, but that the King had most positively refused to grant it, and upon that decision the Ministers found themselves called upon to remain in office. *Jacta est alea.*

It was in some degree cynical on the part of the Minister of Finance that, immediately after the hostile vote of the First Chamber, he went to the Lower House in order to deliver his "Budget Speech," of which I give you the outlines. Mr. Van der Heim began with stating that the accounts for previous years had been completely balanced. The expenditure for 1876 is estimated at about 114,000,000 florins, or 2,300,000 florins more than for the present year. This comprises 7,000,000 florins for railways and 6,000,000 florins for improvement of our national defences. The revenue is estimated at about 109,000,000 florins, and the Minister proposed to cover the deficit as usual by an issue of treasury notes to the extent of five millions. He further explained, however, that the issue of these notes would not be required at present, nor would any extraordinary resources be necessary for the continuation of the works connected with national defence. On account of future financial needs a revision of the system of taxation would be necessary, and a scheme had been prepared by him to that effect. This state of affairs is, it happily cannot be denied, most satisfactory. In the last few years a large sum has been expended for public works, but we have not had to borrow a penny, but on the contrary, have added a large amount to our redemption fund. For this prosperity we have to thank the poor Javanese, for without the "squeezing system" our financial position would be anything but rose-coloured. Happy the Minister of Finance who is backed by a culture system! It is quite true what the *Vaderland* says:—The figures of the Budget are tragically eloquent; it would be impossible to balance the national account without the aid of the Minister of the Colonial Department.

The Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was also approved by the Second Chamber after a very short discussion; no political debate took place. Mr. de Casembroot proposed to insert a paragraph to express our gratitude to our brave East India Army and Navy, but several members protested. The Royal Speech said only that the army were fully equal to their task, and it was of no use to be *plus royaliste que le Roi*. The Minister interpreted these phrases of the Speech in the sense of the amendment of Mr. de Casembroot. He, however, acknowledged that all was not *pour le mieux dans le meilleur des mondes possible*, and he promised improvements and reinforcements. The matter then dropped. A still worse fate befel the amendment of Mr. Teding van Berkhout, to insert in the Address that the war with Atchin should be brought to an end at once instead of being pushed on to a conclusion, as was proposed by the Commission. This amendment was rejected by a large majority. From the further debate I only find that not one important word was said about the Education question; and that Mr. Godefrroi induced the Go-

vernment to do something in behalf of Surinam, because he feared for the *deliberante Senatu perit Saguntum*. To-day the East India Budget was examined in the sections, the reporters being Messrs. Van Kerkwyk, Mirandolle, Mackay, Insinger, and Schimmelpenninck.

You will remember that the pamphlet of Mr. de Rochemont, "Loudon and Atjeh," was severely criticised in the Chamber by Messrs. Van de Putte and Fabius. The author has forwarded an address to the Lower House asking the President to make the said members responsible for the expressions used by them, when they gave their opinion upon his book. No notice, however, was taken of this address, especially because no members can be made answerable for remarks made in the Chamber (vide Art. 92 of the Constitution).

A few weeks ago I told you that some people in Belgium intended to proceed against our Government for the repayment of a sum of sixty millions, being the amount of the inheritance of a certain J. Dubois, who died in the last century. The *Amsterdamsche Correspondent* asked for some further information, and its correspondent now says:—On the 28th of June, 1875, a co-operative association was formed between fifty-three persons, in order to try to examine if there are grounds for claiming the inheritance of a certain Jacques Dubois, born at Vedrin (province of Namur), and who died at Batavia in 1704. New members will be enrolled till the number of 150 has been reached. The contribution is ten francs a month. The manager of the association is a certain Mr. Dubois, living at Chaussée de Waire, near Brussels.

There is still a large influx of Belgians at Harderwyk, recruits for the East India Army. As it has frequently happened that these persons are provided with false documents about their age, &c., our Government has ordered a strict investigation, and in consequence a large number of these volunteers are sent back again to their native country. Some days ago a kidnapper was arrested at Harderwyk, and he was well provided with false documents for this scandalous purpose. You will remember that the German Government arrested at Darmstadt a certain Major Steck, who formerly belonged to our East Indian Army. He was accused of promoting the secret enrolment of young Germans for our depot at Harderwyk. He, however, has been set at liberty because there was no proof to support the accusations. On the 16th October a detachment of 240 soldiers will be despatched from Harderwyk per steamer *Celebes*, and on the 22nd another of 552 soldiers per *Prinses Amalia*.

For several years Dr. Hoffmann has been busy preparing for the publication of a Japanese-Dutch-English Dictionary. For some months, however, the author has been ill, and it is with his approbation that the Government has charged Mr. Serrurier to complete the work for a remuneration of f.5,000. The dictionary is to be ready within three years. The Government intends to grant a subsidy of f.17,700 to Dr. Blecker in order to enable him to finish his "Atlas Ichthyologique des Indes Orientales Moer laudaises."

The province of Limburg is literally inundated by German Jesuits, who are compelled to leave their country. Several beautiful and large country seats have been bought by them. It is to be hoped that these religious persons will not involve us in difficulties with Germany.

Fifteen officers—and amongst them Mr. Reeringh, 1st lieutenant, Messrs. Berends and Wymans, 2nd lieutenants—are ordered for two years' service in Java.

Some members of the Red Cross will give a dinner to Mr. Gunther von Bultzingslowen who will arrive here in a few days. He has distinguished himself by his kind treatment of the wounded and sick soldiers in Atchin.

The leading Liberal papers, the *Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant* and the *Handelsblad*, are very angry because the editor of the London *Times* has presumed to meddle with our affairs in Atchin. Probably you will reproduce the article, and your readers in the Far East will be able to judge if it is written by some one who understands the question. According to these papers we have every reason to be content with our success. The enemy is not yet subdued, but we have succeeded in maintaining our positions. I should trespass too much on your valuable space by reproducing the whole of the remarks of these thick-and-thin supporters of the great blunder with which the names of Messrs. Van de Putte and Loudon are associated.

The same dullness as during the last weeks still prevails at the Bourse and the Money Market. I am glad to state that the shares of the Java Steamship Company have advanced 8 per cent.

The King has approved the appointment of Mr T. H. Pels as Vice-Consul for the United States at Batavia.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

Except for public auctions the market remains very quiet. Holders in general keep firm, and seem to be convinced that the small stock must lead to an improvement of business.

COFFEE.—Since the public sale of the Trading Company no transactions of any importance took place. The article seems to be in a very healthy condition.

TEA.—With a very limited business, the trade is expecting the result of the forthcoming auctions.

RICE very quiet. There was no demand at all for Java cleaned. The stock of Japan sorts is exhausted. The quotations—rather nominal—are unaltered.

SPICES.—Mace met with some demand, there being eager buyers for inferior quality. Nutmegs dull. Cloves without transactions. Pepper calm. Nutmegs, No. 1, 185c. to 190c.; No. 2, 170c. to 175c. Mace, D, 175c. to 176c.; E, 170c. to 173c. Black Pepper, 27c. to 27½c.; White Pepper, 45c. to 50c. Cloves, 105c. to 106c.

JAVA TOBACCO.—Important lots were sold by private tender. In general satisfying prices were paid for the sundry headmarks. The stock included, on the 18th, 3,584 bales Sumatra and 52,952 bales Java.

COTTON.—The market is dull because there is no demand for consumption or export.

RATTANS.—The Trading Company will offer on the 13th 97,700 bales.

JAVA INDIGO.—Some small lots found buyers at unaltered prices.

BANCA TIN.—The rather nominal quotation is f.53, Billiton f.50.

ARRACK.—70 cases Batavia ex-Nieuwe Waterweg changed hands.

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THE PROPOSED WOOSUNG TRAMWAY.

THE *North China Herald* to hand by the mail last arrived contains an interesting article upon the scheme which has for some time been under contemplation, of making a tramway between Shanghai and Woosung. The company for this purpose was, as our readers will recollect, formed some time since in England, and a considerable amount of the requisite capital has been already subscribed. It appears, however, that Shanghai is asked to contribute the further sum of Tls. 15,000, and our China contemporary takes the opportunity, while advocating the co-operation of the Model Settlement, to give a few facts which go far towards showing that the enterprise is likely to prove of a paying character. The total working cost is estimated at £20 a day, or the equivalent of about 86,000 cash; and it appears that the passage-boats which ply in large numbers between Shanghai and Woosung obtain a fee of 40 cash a-head from their passengers. It is justly pointed out that lengthened experience of railways shows that the traffic is always largely increased by the facilities they introduce. This view has of late received a striking illustration in the extent to which the district and metropolitan railway trains have increased the number of travellers in and around London; and there is no reason why similar effects should not be produced in China. As a means of testing the possibility of introducing the railway into China, the scheme is one which it is well worth the while of the mercantile community in Shanghai to support; and the amount of money which they are called upon to risk would be well spent upon the experiment. There may possibly be at first some difficulties in regard to the question of the right to build a tramway or railway of the kind in China, and some attempt at raising trouble on the part of the passage-boat owners, whose business will at first sight appear likely to suffer, must be looked for; but the land having been actually purchased by foreigners, it may be hoped that a satisfactory settlement of any question that may arise will be arrived at. It unfortunately cannot be overlooked that the construction of a railway in a country where such enterprises have not yet been introduced is a matter in which the authorities have a right to be heard, and it will not, therefore, do to rely implicitly upon the simple possession of the ground. We mention this, we need scarcely say, not with any idea of throwing cold water upon an enterprise which all who are interested in the progress of foreign commerce in China would gladly see successful, but simply to enable those who are charged with the conduct of the concern to be upon their guard in time; as although the tramway might be set on foot without the question being raised, experience of the Chinese points only too clearly to the probability of the opposite being the case. "Forewarned is forearmed" in all places, and more especially in China, where it is necessary always to be upon the alert against the action of the officials. If the local authorities, however, can be induced to support the scheme, the likelihood is that it would never be mentioned at Peking, which is the great *vis inertiae* in regard to every attempt at the introduction of modern improvements; and it would therefore be wise to obtain their goodwill by every legitimate means. However this may turn out to be, the completion of even

so small a line of iron road in China is an event upon which all must look with interest; and no doubt, if the present scheme succeed, it will do much towards facilitating the introduction of railways more generally into the Celestial Empire. At present the Chinese—both officials and others—are in total ignorance of what railways are, and naturally imagine that their introduction will have a serious political bearing; whereas, did they really know the nature of the enterprise, and found by experience that they were (as is likely to be the case) popular with the masses, they might be far less disposed to oppose them than they are likely to be without such knowledge. There is one element which is well worthy of consideration as a means of making the Chinese more friendly towards railway schemes, which might perhaps be attached to them, namely, the possibility of their being made a source of revenue. In a country where everything is taxed, as in China, there could be no reason why some form of impost should not be placed upon railways, and it is probable that a good revenue might be derived from this source. This fact would prove a more powerful argument with the mandarins than anything which could be advanced upon the grounds of political economy or general statesmanship; and there can be no reason why it should not be suggested to them. There is no doubt that a great deal of the opposition which we have met with from the Chinese officials has resulted from our asking to be allowed to do things for the permission to do which natives would be willing to pay, without offering to do so in any form. We cannot, of course, condescend to a system of bribery such as is universally in force in China; but there is no reason why we should not, where the circumstances admit of it, agree to the payment of reasonable taxes upon the enterprise for which we desire to obtain official sanction. There can be little doubt that the prospect of obtaining a substantial revenue from foreign goods had great influence with the Chinese in granting the treaty privileges already conceded; and it is certain, did they see similar advantage, they would be much more willing than they have been hitherto to grant concessions for railways and other foreign improvements.

THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

BY the last English mail we received the report of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, passed at the meeting of the 18th August last, of which a telegraphic summary was published at that time. A perusal of the details, as set forth in it, shows that the affairs have been thoroughly sifted, and affords good ground for hope that the measures which have been adopted will be sufficient to make the temporary lull in the prosperity of the institution of short duration. It is evident that no pains have been spared thoroughly to investigate the accounts, to probe matters to the bottom, and to make ample provision for future contingencies. Mr. DAVID MCLEAN was well selected as Inspector, as there is no one who, from his long business experience, is more capable of making a thorough investigation, or who, from his reputation, could better command the confidence of the shareholders. He has evidently been determined to rest content with no half measures, and, in order to place matters before the shareholders in such a manner as to avoid the possibility of further disappointment, has taken all doubtful accounts as eventually turning out bad. Subsequent improvement in the position of the outstanding accounts goes to show that probably one-half the amount thus put down will cover the loss upon them, so that to this extent the outturn will be better than the estimate. It is to be regretted that at best the position of affairs is disappointing to shareholders, many of whom look to their dividends as the sole source of income, but at the same time it is satisfactory that decided action has been taken to meet the state of affairs which has for some time past caused anxiety; not, it is true, as to the stability, but certainly as to the prosperity, of one of the most important commercial institutions in China. The task of righting matters was not an easy one, and any hesitation in placing the worst before the shareholders would have been fatal to its success, and would, in fact, have been only a repetition of the mistake originally made. Fortunately the requisite moral courage has been displayed, and we

make little doubt that the shareholders will ere long have reason to congratulate themselves upon the firm position which has been adopted, and will find in the increased standing, credit, and prosperity of the Bank, ample compensation for the temporary inconvenience in the absence of the dividends which, until recently, were so regularly paid; and which, so soon as the existing drawbacks have been met, will, doubtless, be again forthcoming, not, it is true, upon the large scale formerly in force, but still upon one which will be a fair and reliable return for the capital invested.

THE PENDING NEGOTIATIONS IN CHINA.

THE latest telegrams from China with reference to the negotiations being carried on by Mr. WADE for the settlement of the difficulty consequent upon the murder of Mr. MARGARY confirm the view which we expressed in our last as to the probable cause of the conditions originally telegraphed as assented to having been departed from. It is evident that the Chinese have been resorting to their old plan of endeavouring to evade by *finesse* the terms agreed upon, and that Mr. WADE has not been satisfied that they will take any effectual steps either for the punishment of the offenders or for notifying in the *Peking Gazette* the status and rights of foreigners in the country—two measures imperatively demanded for our future security in the Empire. It is certain that the matter is looked upon in a grave light in important quarters, official and other, and that trifling and evasion will not be accepted in the present instance. Public opinion is strongly roused upon the subject, as may be perceived by the earnest manner in which it has been discussed by all the leading papers; and, indeed, the affair is sufficiently grave to demand the most earnest attention, and the adoption of a firm attitude. The victim of the attack was one of our own Consular officials, engaged upon a peaceful expedition, under the protection of the Chinese Government, and consequently there is every call, from our own point of view, to see justice done in the matter; while these considerations are of still more significance when regarded from a Chinese standpoint, and in connection with the extreme importance attached by the Chinese to official position. If it be once believed generally in China that a British Consular officer can be murdered with comparative impunity, it is clear that no British subject will be safe, and the matter is therefore one which cannot possibly be allowed to pass. We have hitherto abstained from laying stress upon the suggested culpability of the Chinese local officials themselves; but if we find the Peking authorities systematically evading any effective investigation of the matter, it is impossible to ignore the degree to which this is suggestive, not only of the culpability of the local officials, but also of the complicity of the Peking authorities themselves.

IN our last issue we published the sentence of the Court-martial on Brevet-Col. BURTON, of the Royal Marines, by which, being found to have made some statements reflecting seriously on a brother officer, he was, although he believed the statements on reasonable grounds to be true at the time of their utterance, found guilty of conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline, and sentenced to lose four years' seniority, which will have the effect of shutting him out of all hope of further promotion. While we admit that Colonel BURTON's conduct was ill-advised and possibly hasty, we cannot but consider the sentence by far too severe. Had the statements made been completely without excuse the case would be different; but although it appears they were untrue, there were reasonable grounds for believing them, and this circumstance materially diminishes the nature of the offence. A reprimand would probably have been quite sufficient to meet the exigencies of military discipline, and we are certainly surprised to find this exceptionally heavy sentence confirmed by the War-office and the Commander-in-Chief.

IN the event of hostilities breaking out with China the choice of the Admiral in command of the fleet will be a matter of great importance, and it is not improbable that Admiral Sir HENRY KEPPEL, who has already won so

many laurels in the Far East, might be selected. No better person could possibly be found, as there is no flag officer who has had the same experience in the China Seas, or who, judging from the way he has always been received, is likely to work better with the communities or with the Consular and Diplomatic officials. The name of Admiral KEPPEL would of itself have great moral effect with the Chinese. We understand that there is no immediate intention of augmenting the China squadron, as has been rumoured. Should an increase of naval force be required at any given point, it would be easy to meet such a demand temporarily by withdrawing the ships usually employed on the Straits division or in Japanese waters.

THE DIFFICULTY WITH CHINA.

(THE TIMES.)

IN calling for the punishment of the Yunnan officials our Minister has doubtless appealed to the sixteenth article of the Tientsin Treaty, which promises that if any Chinese subject shall wrong Englishmen by a criminal act he shall be punished by the Chinese authorities according to the law of China. It is easy to forecast the reply of the Viceroy. He cannot have boldly refused to fulfil that pledge; Chinese Governors seldom frankly refuse to do anything. But he may have urged that the guilty persons must be found before they can be punished, and that he cannot lay his hands on the criminals. He may deny that the Yunnan officials had anything to do with the murder of our countryman; and Chinese diplomacy must have forgotten its craft if he has not used the maxims of our own jurisprudence to show that the innocence of the Yunnan officials must be assumed until their guilt shall be proved. If Mr. Wade has really insisted that they shall be punished, he must possess evidence which has not yet reached this country. It is no doubt emphatically said that they were at least consenting parties to the murder of Mr. Margary, if, indeed, they did not actually let loose the assassins on him; and the Mandarin class has instigated so many outrages against our countrymen that such a report is, unhappily, but too credible. Still, so far as we yet know, it is only a report, and, unless Mr. Wade has found specific proofs of their guilt, he is not likely to have insisted that they shall be punished without trial. It is the more necessary to be cautious in such a matter because, in dealing with the Chinese Government, we have sometimes taken shorter cuts to success than those sanctioned by Western codes of morality. We have occasionally seemed to assume that all Chinese officials are liars and knaves on whom it would be folly to waste the nicer refinements of courtesy and the moral law. Their Ministers are not above the labour of studying those Parliamentary debates which are often pitiless indictments of ourselves; and Commissioner Yeh is said to have been extremely gratified by the stern condemnation with which some of our chief statesmen and jurists visited the attempt to treat the *Arrow* as an English ship. If we must fight, let it be for reasons of clear justice and of pressing necessity. Happily, Mr. Wade has given us no cause to doubt his prudence or his power of self-restraint. He can, as our Correspondent in China shows, maintain his own dignity, but he is not the kind of Minister who, when invested with authority in the distant East, is inclined to fight for trifles, or to be warlike because conceited Mandarins display the insolence of children. The probability is that he has made no unconditional demand for the punishment of the Yunnan officials, but has only insisted that the Government shall chastise the guilty, and that he finds it evading this duty. There can be little doubt that it will shield the murderers if it can, and that its preparations to find them out have been little better than a series of pretexts. If Mr. Wade sees that the Viceroy is trifling with him, his duty is, of course, as manifest as it is melancholy. At all hazards, we must insist that reparation shall be made for the murder of our countryman, because if one such outrage should go unpunished, others of the same kind would inevitably follow. Firmness is as necessary in our dealings with the Chinese as courtesy and justice.

The demand that the Treaty rights of this country shall be published in the *Peking Gazette* may be still more unwelcome to the Chinese Government than the call for the punishment of the Yunnan murderers. It was only after a disastrous war that the Emperor consented, in the eighth article of the Treaty of 1860, to command his high authorities to publish the compact for general information. To print the terms of it in the official *Gazette* was to proclaim throughout the Empire that "the barbarians" had been absolutely victorious. An end would thus have been put to much of the boasting which has hitherto been the essence of Chinese proclamations. It is said that the fulfilment of the pledge was evaded by the publication of the Treaty only in such copies of the *Peking Gazette* as would reach the hands of Englishmen, and that it was omitted in those numbers intended for general circulation. At least, most of the Chinese people are absolutely ignorant of the privileges which we have exacted by war. The officials know, for example, that the ninth article of the Treaty of Tientsin gives our countrymen a right to travel for pleasure or business into all parts of the interior so long as they possess passports; but the great mass of the natives still regard such visitors as intruders, and this idea is fostered by the official and the literary class. The only way to make our rights clear is to have them properly advertised in the official journal, because that print is regarded with absolute trust. Nothing, moreover, would so tend to give the people a true idea of English power as the text of a Treaty in which China is revealed as a suppliant for peace. Mr. Wade, who has a profound knowledge of the Chinese character, does well to insist on the literal fulfilment of a pledge which was one of the most valuable parts of the Treaty. If nothing but threats will induce the Chinese Government to bring the murderers of Mr. Margary to light and punish them, threats must be used. If threats should fail, war must follow. These general principles

of action will be admitted by all who admit that we have any right to be in China, and there is no danger that they will be forgotten. But it is equally necessary that they should not be applied if the shadow of a doubt rests on the justice of our case, or until all the resources of diplomacy have been exhausted. Nor need the hope of peace be dismissed. The presence of Admiral Ryder with four ships of war at Chefoo, and the knowledge that our Squadron is to be strengthened, will powerfully help Mr. Wade. The Chinese authorities may have been buying gunboats, importing Armstrong guns, and building new forts. They may think that they would not fare so badly in a contest with this country as they did before they possessed European arms; but they also know the power of Western States so well that, on seeing the futility of evasion, they may yield rather than fight. At least, we cannot yet resign that hope. Meanwhile our duty is to ask for nothing but what is essentially just, and to temper firmness with courtesy.

(MORNING POST.)

That Mr. Wade should have been obliged to press for satisfaction on account of the murder of Mr. Margary, and if the fulfilment of the obligations agreed to by the Chinese Government at Tientsin is indicative of an unfriendly spirit on the part of that Government towards England, that may be productive of infinite mischief. England would have been quite satisfied with a full investigation of the occurrences attending the murder of Mr. Margary. If such an investigation showed that the Chinese Government were not to blame, either directly or indirectly, that would have been satisfactory to all concerned; and if, on the contrary, the officials of the Chinese Government were to blame in the matter, an acknowledgment of the fact and some ordinary reparation would have disposed of the question. But in truth the present action of the Chinese Government only tends to confirm the impression previously forced upon us that the Chinese Government is the reverse of anxious to keep on amicable terms with this country. The levying of the duties at the Treaty ports in contravention of the arrangements entered into and the tone and bearing of the Government officials towards our representative boded no good. But, above all, the military preparations of the Chinese were calculated to raise feelings of distrust as to the future. It may be remembered that a year ago we pointed out that the Chinese Government had been procuring torpedo apparatus in this country, and that it was stated without much reserve that when the Chinese Government considered that their harbours and rivers were secure from attack they would break off relations with England and seek to drive us out of the country. There can be no question that the Chinese have entertained the idea that their former want of success in fighting with us was due to defective arrangements that could be rectified. They had seen what the disciplined Chinese under Gordon had been able to effect, and they had felt what arms of precision could do. If Prince Kung had remained in power possibly these ideas might have been kept within bounds, but with the change of Ministers the reactionary party became dominant, and insolence and hostility to foreigners and military preparation became the leading characteristics of the policy of the Chinese Government. All this indicated that a serious disagreement between England and China might at any time occur; and even if the present complication should blow over, there will remain the impression that sooner or later there must be a rupture of the relations subsisting between the countries.

But grave and threatening as the appearance of the Chinese question is at present, it would be wrong to jump to the conclusion that there must be hostile action between the two countries. The Chinese Government may yet agree to the demands of our Minister. That they have put off doing so to a period so late as to raise serious apprehensions as to what is to happen is true, but before the end of this month they may yield, and so obviate any further difficulty. But even if the Chinese Government should fail to comply with our demands, and that in consequence our Minister should withdraw from Peking, it by no means follows that war must be proclaimed at once. Negotiations may be resumed through the intervention of a mutually friendly Power, or even without such intervention. The Chinese Government, satisfied that we shall insist on having the murder of a British subject investigated and atoned for, and that, now at all events, they are not able to cope in arms with us, might agree to our demands in time to prevent hostilities. It is clear, however, that much will depend on the attitude and resolutions of the Chinese Government at the present juncture, and that the next news from China must be looked for with great anxiety.

(DAILY NEWS.)

Ever since Prince Kung's influence ceased to be paramount, the persons who have succeeded him in authority have been testing the extent of British patience under a crafty system of evasion and delay which has been made practically to shield iniquitous outrages on the part of their subordinates. To avoid such direct insult to the British Minister as would precipitate a quarrel, and at the same time to exhibit our countrymen to the population as the helpless objects of contempt, has been the practice of Li Hung Chung and his colleagues. The pressure which has been more recently exerted upon the Chinese Government, especially in connection with the satisfaction demanded for the murder of Mr. Margary, has led to some concessions, the value of which remains to be proved. Months may elapse before we know whether they are nominal and illusory, a mere device to gain time, or are intended to show the real regret of the Government of China for conduct on the part of its inferior agents of which it entirely disapproves. In the meantime it is no secret that our Minister at Peking has not found in his official experience reasons for feeling that confidence in the professions of the Chinese Government which is the best security for peace, and this reinforcement of the British squadron is one of the consequences. The Government and people of this country have no desire to leave the path of peaceful negotiation; but at the same time it must be made plain, not only to Li Hung Chang and his associates, but to every Nabob, Ameer, and Khan by whom our movements are watched throughout the East, that we treat in the plenitude of our power. Any mistake on this point would be followed by consequences onerous indeed to this nation, but disastrous

to those who were betrayed into the belief that the concessions we made in friendship were the payment by which weakness buys off opposition. While, however, we welcome every indication of an amicable settlement of our differences between China, we are bound not to overlook the many signs which present themselves of a disposition on the part of the Chinese and their Government to throw off the obligations they have contracted to us, and to do so even at the risk of war. For many months every mail from further Asia has brought reports of manifestations of hostility of the Chinese to foreigners. Englishmen, Germans, and Americans have been insulted and maltreated in the streets of Peking, where neither social position nor official rank has protected them from attack. Were there reasons for believing that these occurrences were as contrary to the spirit and feeling as they must be to the interests of the Chinese Government, they might be left to be dealt with in the way of ordinary representation on the spot. But they coincide, to say the least, with a revival of the old exclusive and ultra-national feeling which has before now led to serious wars, and which tends to renew them. It is too plain that while the lessons of 1860 have been forgotten, the commercial intercourse which has since grown up between China and Europe has not exerted the influence which ordinarily accompanies relations mutually advantageous.

The experience of a quarter of a century dictates the policy to be pursued in dealing with a Government like that of China, which accepts obligations to free itself from difficulty, and then observes or neglects them according to its convenience or even its humour. In our past dealings with the Chinese, theoretical questions have been raised as to the right of one nation to require another to enter into intercourse with it. With such questions we have no longer to occupy ourselves. China is bound to us by Treaty engagements which we must require its Government to fulfil. There is nothing gained by acquiescing in such a policy of encroachment as is daily practised upon our merchants at the Treaty ports, and which aims at the destruction of the trade of foreigners. The Imperial Government carefully conceals from its subjects the legal status of foreigners as fixed by treaty, by declining to publish Treaties in the *Peking Gazette*. The Chinese Government may speculate on the chances of our resignation to the loss of the advantages which are ours by Treaty right, or it may be resolved to persevere in its present practices until we are driven to assert our just demands by war. It is more likely that it simply obeys an instinct which will urge it on until it encounters an opposition which it is afraid to face. Many a Government has done so, and has afterwards been surprised and alarmed to find that it has advanced too far to recede, and is committed to the issue of an armed collision. Our own Government may be trusted not to leave that of China in any uncertainty as to its intentions, and it will be the fault of the Chinese if the differences between them are not settled by negotiation. But we hope there will be no attempts to patch up the present disagreement, but that the straightforward course will be followed of requiring of the Chinese Government the full and fair fulfilment everywhere of all its engagements. To accept anything short of this will be to make war and probably to increase its cost. For our own sake we have no need to shrink from a war with China, but there is no way by which hostilities are so likely to be averted as by the assertion of our demands, accompanied by the frankest announcement of our intention to procure their fulfilment, and supported by the display of an adequate belligerent force. Our peaceable disposition will be abundantly evinced by the moderation of our requirements; and any weakness in sustaining them will only tempt men like the present rulers of China to advance further in the path which leads surely to war.

(STANDARD.)

We are as yet without authoritative information as to the points in dispute between Mr. Wade and the Chinese authorities, but the report that the latter are trying to evade the performance of the conditions agreed to in the first instance is only too probable. The long delay and the innumerable difficulties which we have had to encounter in bringing our complaints to the notice of the Chinese Government, especially in regard to the Manwyne outrage, will have prepared all those who have had experience of Chinese diplomacy to believe that it is the deliberate intention of those who are in power at Peking to refuse all redress, whether they have made up their minds to a war with England or whether they are only trying to wear out our patience in the usual Chinese fashion, relying upon the chapter of accidents to rescue them from the unpleasant duty of giving us satisfaction. Up to the present time the process of the negotiation has taken a course ominously resembling all other negotiations which we have ever had with the Chinese Government, all of which have ended in war. The first step on the part of the Chinese Government was to delay the presentation of our case. By all those minute arts of diplomacy in which the Chinese are such consummate experts we have been prevented from having access to the highest authorities. To the persistent efforts of the British agent to obtain satisfaction for the Manwyne outrage have been opposed all those resources which the Chinese know so well how to employ when a barbarian demand is to be evaded. After having exhausted all possible means of postponing the consideration of the case the authorities were at length induced to promise that an official of competent rank should be sent to Yunnan to inquire into the matter. What happened next was what happens always in the process of Chinese negotiations. Compelled by the persistency of Mr. Wade to come to some terms, the pretence of a local investigation seems to have been abandoned. Either it was thought not worth while to make any inquiries, or the authorities were but too well acquainted with all the circumstances of the outrage from the beginning. The next step was to agree to a treaty, which, in the last resource, is a pass to which it is not difficult to bring a Chinese Government, seeing that it enters upon treaties absolutely unprejudiced by any foregone intention of fulfilling them. To sign a treaty, as we know by experience, is not the same thing in China as to ensure its fulfilment. Both before and during the last war we signed several treaties at the ports which were systematically repudiated at the capital. That is, in fact, the main difficulty in dealing with the Chinese, arising out of the entire absence, in their diplomacy, of any idea that engagements with the foreigner are binding.

The history of the past is full of precedents proving the utter hopelessness of obtaining any agreement with the Chinese which they will keep any further than they are compelled to its observance. Next to the difficulty of obtaining any agreement is the difficulty of enforcing it. For China is like one of those huge polypi common in her seas, which may be maintained in some members without any injury to the vital part, and which are able to shed as many of their limbs as it is inconvenient to keep attached to the main body.

Our latest news is that Mr. Wade has determined to leave Peking on the 13th October, and if by that time some satisfactory arrangement is not arrived at with the Chinese Government there is, of course, but one possible issue to the business. To provide for such contingencies as it is the duty of every prudent nation having to deal with China to anticipate, the British naval force in the Chinese seas is to be immediately reinforced. Let us hope that it will not be necessary for our Government to take any step beyond this in the assertion of its just and moderate demands; but it is only right that, with our experience of the past, and our knowledge of the new ambitions which have begun to stir the Chinese national mind, and of which Li Hung Chung is the declared representative, we should be prepared for some serious measures. It is not possible for England, however anxious she may be for peace, and however interested in its maintenance, to go back one jot from the terms which she has demanded from the Chinese Government. Either it is a civilized Government or it is not. In the former case, it cannot refuse to do us the justice we seek, without making itself liable to the usual penalty. In the latter case it is our duty, on behalf of civilisation, to teach it one more lesson of the danger of outraging the ordinary laws of humanity and international duty.

(DAILY TELEGRAPH.)

The reparation due for the treacherous assassination committed by the Yunnan mandarins is neither politically nor socially easy for the Government. Politically they are glad to have the trade of the Empire shut out from their Western frontiers, and in the literary and official circles of China we are distinctly informed that the murder of Mr. Margary is looked upon as an act of courage and patriotic devotion worthy of reward. Socially, therefore, it is as dangerous as it is unpleasant for the Peking authorities to punish, by public act and notification, the "brave champions of the border;" and if they could persuade themselves to send a commission, and banish or execute some innocent or subordinate person or persons, they would only, under severe pressure, admit any notice thereof in the *Official Gazette*. Such is the position of affairs; and the prospect is darkened by the reflection that all Asiatics, from Calcutta to Korea, also understand it perfectly well, and are asking themselves whether we shall finally submit to have British blood spilt without expiation. They watch closely the progress of these negotiations in Burmah and at Manwyne, where the Chinese garrison has been strengthened, and the chief assassin of our countryman is still in high command and favour. They are equally alert in Kashgar, the Mussulman kingdom upon which, sympathising as it did with the Panthays, Russia is closing in on one side, and China on the other. They discuss the matter all over India and along the shores of the Bay of Bengal, and hence, for many solid reasons, we must have ample, open, and prompt reparation, or take steps more serious than the mere withdrawal of an Ambassador. There is, we fear, reason to believe that the want of promptitude and decisive language has already cost us the present uncomfortable situation. Alike in Burmah and in China, we have allowed ourselves to be put off with words and ceremonials, when the right policy would have been to formulate just and moderate requests in a perfectly rigid and precise manner, stating what we require, and naming the date at which we must have it. The course pursued—whether inspired by political or courtly reasons—has been the contrary of that which we have sketched. Both on the Irrawaddy and at Peking we have been "palavered," and the death of Mr. Margary is now an event of the far past; whereas strong in justice and national honour, the expiation of that cruel deed should have been insisted upon by us while his blood, as it were, still cried aloud. It is too probable that, like all Orientals, the Chinese officials have taken fresh boldness from a tame acceptance of delay on our part; and, if it be so, part of the blame for so untoward a situation must rest upon the head of British diplomacy. Now, however, the safe line is certainly firmness; and we cling to the hope that when Mr. Wade's resolve, with its possible consequences, becomes known, the mandarins of Peking will recognise the necessities of the dilemma brought on by them in blood-guiltiness, and afford complete, if reluctant, reparation. Herein lies, at all events, the clear way out of a darkening vista; and while we wait to know whether the tension of affairs has not been exaggerated in the telegram, it is lucky that a fortnight remains during which the grave contingency of a war with China and Burmah may still be—as all must fervently desire—avoided by the necessary and equitable submission of the Peking Court.

(THE HOUR.)

No time should be lost in concentrating every available ship in Chinese waters, and the island of Hong Kong should be the winter quarters of the British army in the East. It would be an error to underestimate the power of the Chinese Government. If Mr. Wade should be ejected from Peking, as his predecessor, Lord Amherst, was dismissed without the honour of an audience, there could be no redress for six months. The Peiho would be closed by ice before a British fleet could rendezvous in the Gulf of Pechili, and afterwards Peking is inaccessible. The small number of Europeans on the Chinese seaboard may all be murdered before the spring. The Chinese have an intense and deep-rooted hatred against all foreigners, and need but the signal from some high mandarin like Li Hung Chang to enter upon a massacre of all the foreigners resident in China. The Chinese, 400,000,000 strong, cemented by a common language, a common religion, and a common hatred of foreigners, are capable of committing any atrocities. The only means of averting war and ensuring safety is an immediate exhibition of force upon the Chinese seaboard. The Imperial power of Great Britain must be made manifest to the Chinese Govern-

ment in time to avert the great calamity of war. The Chinese are "spelling for a fight," and their smothered hatred of the English may burst out at any moment in inconceivable horrors. No English missionary in the interior is safe, and no English merchant on the seaboard is assured. No doubt the Chinese can and will be punished for any atrocity which they may commit, but the English residents in China have a right to protection, not redress. It is quite possible yet that the Chinese Government may resort to some subterfuge to detain the British Minister at Peking during the winter, but peace with the Chinese Government is at best only temporary, and we must be prepared to punish Chinese audacity or retire from the country. It is beyond human ken to fathom the results of a Chinese war, but England must do her duty without regard to consequences. If it should be the destiny of England to break down the barriers of Chinese exclusiveness, and bring the Celestials into the family of nations, as we have destroyed the castes of India, and brought them the blessings of peace and prosperity, we cannot shirk our destiny—all nations must bow to the Juggernaut of Progress. The Manchu Tartars have no Divine right to the government of China, and their régime has been one of exclusiveness and spoil. They hold the country by a feeble tenure, and the Government of China must ultimately fall under the sway of Russia or England.

(THE ECHO.)

It is sincerely to be hoped that war may be avoided, but the attitude of the Chinese Government since the accession to power of Li Hung Chung, and their unwillingness to fulfil the most solemn obligations, almost preclude the prospect of a peaceful solution of the difficulty. So deep and unchanging is the animosity felt towards foreigners by the victorious war party now ruling at Peking, that nothing but compulsory measures, or a threatening manifestation of superior force, is likely to influence them. We fear that mere attempts to patch up our relations with China will only put off the evil day. Ever since the deposition of Prince Kung from office the tone of the Chinese authorities has been haughty and contemptuous, not only towards Englishmen, but towards Frenchmen, Americans, and the subjects of other nations. The belief exists that it is still possible to extirpate the hated foreigner, and there is little effort to conceal the dislike with which the presence of the intruder is tolerated. The lesson of 1860 has been thrown away, and the same disinclination prevails to open up the commerce of the country. Whether the Chinese will or will not trade with us is a matter in which they must have some liberty of choice; but for the murder of Mr. Margary atonement must be made. The outrage was committed by Chinese troops, with the connivance, it is believed, of the Chinese authorities, and it is impossible to allow the offenders to go unpunished. We are anxious to avoid hostilities, but the national dignity demands that the obligations entered into by the Chinese Government at Tientsin shall be fulfilled.

The Times prints the subjoined letter from Mr. R. K. Douglas:—Of the two points in dispute between Mr. Wade and the Chinese Government mentioned in the telegram of your Shanghai Correspondent, the "publication of foreign affairs in the *Peking Gazette*" is by far the most important. The *Peking Gazette* is the *London Gazette*, and more than the *London Gazette*, of China. In its columns are published all memorials addressed to the Throne, all edicts issued under the Imperial seal, and all Court announcements. It is received regularly at every Yamen throughout the Empire, and it is read by the educated portion of the non-official classes. The exclusion, therefore, of all mention of foreign affairs from this universal Government record is tantamount to proclaiming that foreigners and their concerns are beneath the serious notice of the Son of Heaven and his advisers. This is, at all events, the view taken of it by the less well-informed of the people, who are as 999 to 1 who has any knowledge of the true position of affairs, and who thus feel themselves at liberty to offer rudeness and even violence, when the occasion is afforded, to those whom their rulers condemn. Not only was the Treaty not published in the *Peking Gazette* as promised by the Chinese Government, but not a single mention has since appeared in its pages of the current relations between the Peking Foreign Office and the foreign representatives. Even the strangely unusual event of audiences having been granted to these gentlemen drew from the Imperial editor no more explicit information than that on a certain day "audiences were granted," but not a word was said as to whom the honour of appearing in the Imperial presence had been accorded.

The following letter from "Sinensis" has also appeared in *The Times*:—The question of peace or war with China probably hangs at the present moment on one thing, whether the Chinese Government believe our Minister to be in earnest and to mean what he says. The nation which succumbed without a blow to a petty Japanese raid twelve months ago does not now dream of provoking the hostility of England. Nor could any enterprise be more repugnant to public feeling in our own country than another attempt to attain by force in China what we have failed to achieve by all our diplomacy. Yet, though both parties are thus sincerely opposed to war, there remains the possibility of such miscarriage in the negotiations as may lead them into it against both their wills. Let us not forget that the Emperor Nicholas drifted into the Crimean war through a misunderstanding of our intentions. What is wanted to avert this calamity in China is a little plain speaking, backed by some visible evidence that we really intend our demands to be fully satisfied. Unhappily some proof of our sincerity has become necessary, as our words no longer go for much in China, for our representatives there have been dealing so freely in implicit threats of war for years past, that by constant iteration they have lost their effect. The present difficulty is the natural outcome of a well-meant but mistaken line of policy which foreign Governments generally, and our own in particular, have pursued towards China since 1860. It is not too late even now to remedy these errors, but it is high time the truth should be told, were it only from a sense of justice to the Chinese themselves. The murder of Mr. Margary is only the last of a long series. British subjects, of course, having been the chief sufferers. The real authors of these crimes have in almost every case been Government

officials, none of whom have been brought to justice. There was usually a little fuss about the affair, some general warnings of remot consequences, and there the matter would drop. The Chinese, as you observe in your leading-article to-day, being diligent students of English Blue-books, might have traced in the despatches of the Minister to the Home Government a disposition to make light of such matters and very often to cast reflections on the victims; and, reading on, they would generally find the correspondence closed by a congratulatory despatch from Downing-street thanking the Minister for his successful conduct of the affair. Why, then, they naturally ask themselves, should this particular murder in Yunnan be exceptionally treated? If missionaries, merchants, and Sisters of Charity may be slaughtered with impunity, why not gentlemen in the Consular service? We know, of course, that, notwithstanding our needless protestations of peacefulness, there is a point beyond which our forbearance will not go; but we have never given the Chinese the slightest indication as to where that point is. The thing which has been most firmly impressed on their minds since they have interested themselves in current English literature is that the English nation will not fight under any circumstances; and this is precisely the conclusion which a superficial student of the utterances of our public men during the Gladstone administration would have arrived at. It has been observed that it has been usual for the Chinese Government when pressed for redress of an outrage to consult with Mr. Hart, Inspector-General of Customs, not on the question whether redress ought justly to be granted, but simply whether the threats of the Foreign Minister meant "war." Mr. Hart could not conscientiously say "yes," and consequently, the redress was refused. The Chinese statesmen are probably again plying their English adviser to know what the present bluster all means, and if he could now convince them that it did mean war, there can be little doubt that all our demands would be at once granted and peace would be maintained. It is greatly to Mr. Wade's credit that he is insisting, not only on a promise to punish the murderers of Mr. Margary, but on the fulfilment of the promise, this last being the novel element in our Chinese diplomacy which is causing all the trouble. Were that adopted as our invariable rule, there would be no longer any temptation to the Chinese to make experiments on our patience or our credulity. No doubt, the murderers must be found before they can be punished, and they will neither be found nor punished except under the direction of English officers, as I ventured to point out in your columns three weeks ago. Any settlement of the affair which does not include a strict local investigation into the facts of the massacre will be only one added to the list of shams with which our recent intercourse with China is marked.

THE ATCHIN WAR.

(THE TIMES.)

Exactly two years and a half have elapsed since M. Franse Van de Putte, Minister of the Colonies and one of the leaders of the Liberal Party, communicated to the States-General the fact that war had been proclaimed against the Sultan of Atchin by the Governor-General of the Dutch Indies. The Minister then assured the country that the war would be a mere parade, and that the formidable Mahomedan kingdom in North-Western Sumatra would at the first summons bow its head before the Power which ruled Java and Madura and the Spice Islands, and which had planted its forts and factories along the Sumatran coast as far as the Equator. But not many days had elapsed when the Government at the Hague was compelled to confess to a mortifying disaster: the troops which had been sent against Atchin by the Colonial Government were defeated with a loss of nearly 500 men, and General Kohler, their commander, was left among the dead. Embarrassed by the fatal climate and threatened by the simultaneous rising of all the tribes in the north of the island, the Dutch retreated, but the resolution to humble Atchin was firmly rooted in the hearts of the people of Holland by the shame of Kohler's defeat. The States-General, without delay or questioning, voted a large sum for the prosecution of the enterprise. Preparations for a renewal of the war as soon as the deadly summer had spent its force were instantly set on foot, and in the beginning of the cold season an army of considerable strength under General Van Swieten, advanced against the Kraton where the councillors of the youthful Sultan had determined to resist to the last. The Atchinese fought bravely, and their valour was quickened by the religious passion of the Moslem revival. They had a strong position, some modern weapons, a few European leaders, and men at least partly disciplined in the European fashion. Pestilence scourged the besiegers, who, on their part, pressed on doggedly. At length, suddenly and almost without resistance, the Kraton fell, in the early days of 1874; and the victorious commander sent home a despatch affirming that the war was practically at an end. It only remained to extinguish in detail the smouldering fires of resistance, and for this necessary complement of the work of conquest money and men were again cheerfully voted by the Chambers at the Hague. Months passed by, however, and in the summer of 1874 it began to become known that the position of the Dutch was by no means assured. They held possession of the Kraton, but of the country around they commanded no more than they might from time to time enclose in their intrenchments or occupy in passing marches. Reinforcements were continually drawn from Holland, but they hardly filled up the gaps left by disease. The resources voted by the States-General melted away without giving the invaders strength enough to break the backbone of the resistance. The courage of the Atchinese was fully matched by their obstinacy, and an observer who had watched the struggle with close interest declared that they were equalled by no fighting race in the East, except the Sikhs. The Dutch Government attempted to evade the force of this evidence, which appeared in our columns a little more than twelve months ago, but their conduct has since made ample confession of the truth. The barrenness of the achievements of General Van Swieten cannot be denied, and the avowal in the words we have quoted from the King's speech completes the disheartening story.

The Session of the States-General, which was opened last week, can scarcely be allowed to pass without a rigorous investigation of the Government policy. Military operations at the seat of war have never during this year transcended the modest proportions of petty skirmishes, in some of which—as, for instance, the last reported by telegraph some days ago—the success of the Dutch appears to have been very undecided. No attempt has been made to gather the struggle to a head and to strike a final blow. The Batavian journals, indeed, a month or six weeks since were congratulating the country on the reforms introduced into the army of occupation at Atchin, on the evacuation of the Kraton, where pestilence raged horribly, the improvement of the condition of the soldiery, and the hopes held out to them of pensions and other rewards. The new General in command had attempted to mitigate the sufferings of the European troops from the deadly heat by boring artesian wells and setting ice-making machines at work. But all these improvements barely sufficed to enable the Dutch to hold their ground. A new Sultan of Atchin has been raised, it seems, to the throne of the unfortunate boy with whom Holland picked a quarrel three years ago, and immediately after his installation he will lead, as is believed, an attack upon the Dutch positions in which 30,000 Atchinese are to take part. At Batavia there is a strong hope that this rumour, of which the telegraph has yet brought no confirmation may prove true. It is anticipated that if the Atchinese are imprudent enough to engage European soldiers in a pitched battle, their strength may be finally broken. But these Sumatran Mussulmans are by no means devoid of shrewdness, and they may perceive that their guerilla warfare is tiring out the moral and physical energy of the invasion. Their tactics hitherto do not lead us to suppose that they will risk everything upon a single cast. The Ministers at the Hague evidently do not assume that the crisis has yet come. They wisely decline to purchase a temporary popularity by promising an early reduction of the calls for volunteers and the extraordinary credits demanded from the States-General. Yet these are no light burdens. The finances of Holland, it would appear, are able to bear the burden, but a continuing drain such as this lingering war entails must be felt by even a rich country. Since the beginning of the present year more than 3,500 men have been enlisted for service in the Indies by the Government at the Hague, at a bounty, including a sum granted for outfit, of 400 florins, or about £34 per head. Not a little dissatisfaction has been caused in the neighbouring countries, especially in Belgium, by the enlistments of men for this service; yet it seems the Dutch Government have been careful not to trench on international rights, and have merely accepted those foreigners who voluntarily offered to encounter the risks of a tropical expedition. The process, however, is costly, as the addition we have mentioned to the War Estimates, already swollen by the charges of a complete military reorganisation, is sufficient to prove, and it is doubtful if it procures the sort of soldiers who have either the physical or the moral qualities needed for warfare in the Far East. It is likely that the whole policy of the Government, and especially of the Colonial Minister, will soon be challenged, discussed, and severely investigated at the Hague. The reputation of M. Van de Putte has been gravely assailed by a partisan and former Aide-de-Camp of the Governor-General of the Dutch Indies, M. Loudon. On M. Loudon public opinion has hitherto thrown the blame of the disasters in Sumatra, but it is now alleged that the Colonial Minister is solely or mainly chargeable. It is just to say that M. Van de Putte repudiates the charges brought against his policy, which rests, as he asserts, upon garbled despatches; but he cannot clear himself without an inquiry which must open up all the miserable history of the Atchin war. Let us hope that the exposure of its present failure may spur the Government at the Hague to some decisive resolution. The prolongation of the struggle under its present conditions is an afflicting spectacle to humanity. Holland as well as Atchin suffers painfully, and no end of their suffering is in sight. It is time for Holland, if she respects herself, or regards the future of her great Empire in the Eastern Seas, to make an end of this wretched conflict. We do not counsel retreat; we do not even say that retreat is possible now. For the Dutch Government it remains to choose in what way the end shall be made—whether by a supreme exertion of force, or by a courageous confession of defeat.

Monetary and Commercial.

There is no feature to report regarding the position of the Manchester Market; the tone has been quiet, and the demand generally moderate. Low $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Shirtings continue in fair demand, and for lighter weights there is some inquiry, but at prices which prevent business. Notwithstanding the absence of animation producers show no desire to tempt business by making concessions, and steadily maintain their quotations.

At the extraordinary general meeting of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China on the 20th inst., the directors will recommend an interim dividend for the half-year ended 30th June last at the rate five per cent. per annum free of income tax.

The directors of the Eastern Extension, Australasia, and China Telegraph Company (Limited) have declared an interim dividend for the quarter ending June 30th, 1875, of 3s. per share, or at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, payable on the 15th inst.

The Eastern Telegraph Company (Limited) announce the payment, on the 14th inst., of an interim dividend of 2s. 6d. per share for the quarter ended 30th June last, and that the coupons on the Six per Cent. Debenture Bonds will be paid on the 15th inst. at the bank of Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co.

The half-yearly report of the Delhi and London Bank shows an available balance of £11,325, out of which the directors pro-

pose to pay a dividend at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, to apply £3,000 to meet deficiencies on realisation of the lock-up account, and carry forward £729 to the next account.

The directors of Reuter's Telegram Company (Limited) have declared the usual interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending 30th June last.

It is announced that the Bank of California will resume business on the 2nd inst., and that all their outstanding drafts on the Oriental Bank Corporation will be paid on presentation.

The deliveries of tea from the bonded warehouses in London during the week ended the 25th ult. amounted to 3,525,514 lb., of which 2,080,422 lb. was for home consumption, 760,367 lb. was removed coastwise, 566,857 lb. was exported, 112,710 lb. was sent coastwise for export, and 5,158 lb. was for ships' stores. The duty received was £52,011, being about $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. less than in the previous week.

It is considered probable that during the next Parliamentary session a Bill will be introduced for the amendment of the Limited Liability Act. The subject is now engaging the attention of the Board of Trade, and it is generally admitted that the existing law requires some amendment, especially in regard to the liability of directors. Of course no attempt will be made to disturb the general principle of limited liability, which has now become too firmly rooted in our commercial policy to be disturbed.

Mr. E. Lentz has become a partner in the firm of Lafrentz and Co., of Cullum Street, which has increased its capital by the amount of £100,000.

Bar silver has been sold at 56 11-16d. per oz., but the Market now looks slightly weaker, the demand for export not being so active. Mexican Dollars remain as last quoted, a small quantity from New York having been sold at 55½d. per oz.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

| Shares. | | Paid. | Closing Prices. |
|---------------------------------|--|-------|-----------------|
| JOINT-STOCK BANKS. | | | |
| £10 | Agra... | All | 8½ to 8½ |
| 25 | Bank of Egypt... | All | 46 to 48 |
| 30 | Chartered of India, Aust., and China... | All | 16 to 17 |
| 25 | Chartered Merc. of India and China... | All | 30 to 31 |
| 30 | City... | 10 | 13½ to 13½ |
| 100 | Colonial... | 30 | 56 to 58 |
| 500fr. | Comptoir D'Escompte de Paris... | All | 600 fr. |
| Th.300 | Deutsche... | All | Th.160 |
| £25½ | Hong Kong and Shanghai... | All | 16 to 18 |
| 50 | Imperial... | 15 | 17 to 18 |
| 50 | London and County... | 20 | 59 to 61 |
| 50 | London Joint-Stock... | 15 | 45 to 47 |
| 100 | London and Westminster... | 30 | 63½ to 64½ |
| 35 | Oriental... | All | 46 to 46 |
| 50 | Union of London... | 15 | 42 to 43 |
| TELEGRAPH COMPANIES. | | | |
| 10 | Eastern Extension Australia and China... | All | 7½ to 7½ |
| 10 | Eastern Telegraph... | All | 7½ to 7½ |
| 10 | Great Northern... | All | 9 to 9½ |
| 25 | Indo-European... | All | 20 to 21 |
| 10 | Mediterranean Extension... | All | 2½ to 3½ |
| 12 | Telegraph Construction Company... | All | 21 to 22 |
| 30 | India-rub., Gutta-perc., & Teleg. Works... | All | 20 to 21 |
| 8 | Reuter's... | All | 10 to 10½ |
| INSURANCE COMPANIES. | | | |
| 100 | Alliance Marine... | 25 | |
| 30 | British and Foreign Marine... | 4 | |
| 50 | Commercial Union... | 5 | 6 to 7 pm. |
| 30 | Globe Marine... | 4 | 1½ to 0½ dis. |
| 50 | Home and Colonial Marine... | 5 | |
| 10 | Imperial Marine... | 3 | |
| 30 | London and Provincial Marine... | 2 | ½ to 1 pm. |
| 10 | Merchants' Marine... | 2 | 2 to 1 dis. |
| 50 | North British and Mercantile... | 6½ | 36 to 37 |
| 35 | Ocean Marine... | 5 | 3 to 4 pm. |
| 30 | Thames and Mersey... | 2 | 3½ to 4 pm. |
| 30 | Thetis Marine... | 10 | |
| 50 | Union Marine, Liverpool... | 5 | |
| 30 | Universal Marine... | 5 | 3 to 4 pm. |
| TEA COMPANIES. | | | |
| 50 | Assam... | 30 | 49 to 51 |
| 30 | British Indian... | All | 6 to 7 |
| 30 | Darjeeling... | All | 16½ to 17½ |
| 10 | Eastern Assam... | All | 4½ to 5 |
| 30 | Jorchaunt, Limited... | All | 55 to 60 |
| 20 | Do. | 14 | |
| 10 | Leibong... | All | 18½ to 14½ |
| 10 | Upper Assam... | All | 2½ to 2½ |
| MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES. | | | |
| 30 | Ceylon... | All | 5½ to 5½ dis. |
| 20 | Do. | 10 | |
| 20 | Do. | 5 | |
| 50 | Colonial... | 20 | 11 to 9 dis. |
| 5 | Credit Foncier of England... | All | 1½ to 2 |
| 10 | General Credit and Discount... | 7½ | 7½ to 8½ |
| 10 | Hong Kong Gas... | All | 15 to 16 |
| 10 | International Finance... | 5 | 1½ to 1½ dis. |
| 25 | National Discount... | 5 | 8½ to 9½ |
| 500fr. | Messageries Maritimes of France... | All | 655 fr. |
| £50 | P. and O. Steam... | All | 48 to 45 |
| 50 | Do. | 10 | 7 to 5 dis |
| 100 | Royal Mail Steam... | 60 | 64 to 67 |
| 402fr. | Suez Canal... | — | 738½ fr. |
| | Amoor River Navigation Six per Cent... | All | |
| £98 | Japan Loan, 9 per cent. | All | 109 to 111 |
| 92½ | Do. 7 per cent. | All | 104 to 106 |

BANKS AND COMPANIES CONNECTED WITH THE FAR EAST.

Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, 122, Leadenhall-street, and 25, Cockspur-street, Pall-mall.

Messageries Maritimes (Head Office in Paris), 97, Cannon-street, and 51, Pall Mall.

Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company, 13, Austinfriars.

Hong Kong and China Gas Company, Gresham House, J. C. Walduck, secretary.

Singapore Gas Company, 8, St. Mary Axe, Robert King, Secretary.

Singapore Patent Slip and Dock Company, Paterson, Simons, and Co., agents, 21, St. Swithin's-lane.

Singapore Johore Steam Saw Mills Company, Paterson, Simons, and Co., agents, 21, St. Swithin's-lane.

Amoy Dock Company, John Pook, agent, Lime-street-square.

Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, Morrison and Co., agents, 4, Fenchurch-street.

North China Insurance Company, 25, Cornhill, J. S. Mackintosh, manager.

Canton Insurance Company, Matheson and Co., agents, 3, Lombard-street.

Union Insurance Company of Canton, M. P. Jukes, manager, 82 Broad-street.

China Traders Insurance Company, Hong Kong, Geo. Croshaw and Co., agents, 116, Fenchurch-street.

China and Japan Marine Insurance Company, Mr. W. Schmidt, agent, 3, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill.

Ceylon Company, Palmerston-buildings, Old Broad-street, R. A. Cameron, secretary.

Borneo Company, 22, Fenchurch-street, William Martin, manager.

Tanjong Pagar Dock Company (Limited) of Singapore, Mactaggart Tidman, and Co., agents, 34, Leadenhall-street.

German Steamship Company, Hamburg, Robertson and Co., agents, 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill.

BANKS.

Agra Bank, 28, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, J. Thomson, chairman
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, Hatton-court, Threadneedle-street, J. H. Gwyther, manager.

Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, Old Broad-street, D. T. Robertson, general manager.

Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris, 144, Leadenhall-street.

Deutsche Bank of Berlin, 50, Old Broad-street, G. Pietsch, manager.

Bank of Rotterdam, Union Bank of London, agents, Princes-street.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, D. McLean, manager, 31, Lombard-street.

National Bank of India, R. O. Sawers, chief manager, 30, King William-street.

Oriental Bank Corporation, Threadneedle-street, C. J. F. Stuart, chief manager.

* * Companies omitted in the above list will be included if the particulars are forwarded.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

Few articles of first importance have undergone any improvement, and the general characteristic of the Produce Markets has been continued dullness. The telegrams from China respecting the uncertainty of political affairs, and the probability of a moderate export of Tea for the season has caused importers to be generally firm holders, and in many cases stocks are held for some advance in price. Silk is very quiet. There has been more demand for some kinds of Sugar, chiefly Java, at steady rates. Coffee has fluctuated, closing flatly at lower quotations. Rice has been depressed, resulting in a further decline in value, and prices are now lower than at any previous time this year. Sago has further declined. The recent advance in Pepper has not been sustained. Cassia is higher; Nutmegs lower; Mace rather dearer. Scarcely any alteration has taken place in Cotton. Hemp continues very dull. Cutch is quiet; Gambier dearer.

TEA.

The market rules very firm, as the weak holders have sold off their imports, and the bulk of supplies in first hands is held by firms of stability, with a practical knowledge of the leaf. The political events of the last few days have also tended to give strength, bids in most instances being refused, and many importers have withdrawn their teas. The most marked advance is in medium kinds of Congou from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 7d., which show 1½d. per lb. rise from the lowest point of about a month ago. Scented Caper is also 1d. to 2d. per lb. dearer, making 4d. per lb., from the extreme depression, and there is margin for a still further advance, as the shipments by latest telegraphic accounts give a deficiency of about 2,500,000 lbs. as compared with last season, and the range of prices now current is by no means at a high scale. Though the state of the market is in a much healthier condition than for some time past the value of most kinds of tea is still below import cost; and as the total export is not likely to be over last season owing to the heavy losses being made on good common to fair quality of Congou,

importers will no doubt continue to give support to the market. One or two dealers seeing the favourable change that has set in are quietly securing all the cheap parcels that are available, notably, old season's good useful teas at 10d. to 11d. per lb., worth during the early part of this year 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. There is now difficulty in buying similar teas on as favourable terms as during the early part of last week, and it is quite certain when buying becomes general during the next few weeks (for the autumn requirements) advanced prices will readily be paid. Green Teas have been freely offered, ex late arrivals, and, quality considered, have, on the whole, realised at public auction excellent prices. It is very satisfactory to note that prices in China are falling to the average current before the Taiping rebellion, and as the districts that were over-run have been brought under cultivation again, full supplies may be looked for, which, if not manufactured into green, will doubtless come forward to imitate Japan or Congou leaf.

| | 1875. lbs. | 1874. lbs. |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| United Kingdom stock, on the 31st August, 1875, was estimated at | 85,000,000 | 74,500,000 |
| Cargoes of vessels arrived up to date, but not included in the above stock, with portion of other cargoes only partially included | 20,350,000 | 19,997,000 |
| Amount on the water advised by telegraph to 16th Sept, against actual shipments to same date last year | 24,134,000 | 48,042,000 |
| | 129,484,000 | 142,539,000 |

SILK.

The market is quiet, there being little or no demand for export, and only a moderate inquiry for the Home Trade. Prices of Chinas and Japans remain unaltered, but those of Cantons are a shade lower. Deliveries 1st to 29th ult. inclusive; China, 3,080 bales; Canton, 465; Japan, 521; total, 4,066 bales.

LONDON QUOTATIONS—Oct. 1.

| CHINA. | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----------------------|
| Taslee, No. 1 | ... | 19s. 6d. to 20s. 6d. |
| " No. 2 | ... | 18s. 6d. to 19s. 6d. |
| " No. 3 | ... | 17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d. |
| " Red Peacock | ... | 14s. 6d. to 15s. 6d. |
| Yuenfai and Hainan, Nos. 1, 2, and 3 | ... | 12s. 6d. to 14s. 6d. |
| Tayssam Keying, Nos. 2 and 3 | ... | 13s. 6d. to 15s. 6d. |
| Long Reel | ... | 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. |
| Canton | ... | 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. |
| Chinese Thrown | ... | 13s. 6d. to 14s. 6d. |
| JAPAN. | | |
| Maibash and Sinciu, Nos. 1, 2, and 3 | ... | 14s. 6d. to 17s. 6d. |
| Idah | ... | (none) |
| Sodai | ... | (none) |
| Oshiu, Nos. 2 and 3 | ... | 16s. 6d. to 18s. 6d. |
| Koshu | ... | (none) |
| Eichizen | ... | (none) |
| Mashu | ... | (none) |
| Hatchaji | ... | (none) |

The market has been flat, and the much larger quantities of Plantation Ceylon brought to auction have gone off without competition at continually declining prices, until at the close the whole of the recent advance had been lost, and closing quotations are about equal to those given a fortnight ago. Native Ceylon has sold steadily. The market for foreign descriptions has been dull, and prices are lower. Closing quotations are: Plantation, triage and ordinary 88s. 6d. to 102s. 6d., grey to fine colour small 104s. 6d. to 110s., fine fine ordinary faded grey 108s. to 109s. 6d., low middling 110s. to 112s., middling 112s. 6d. to 114s., good middling to fine middling 114s. 6d. to 116s., good to fine bold 116s. 6d. to 120s. 6d., onelot 122s. 6d., peaberry 125s. to 131s.; Native, small 86s. 6d. to 87s., good ordinary Galle kind 96s. 6d., fine ordinary even 97s. 6d. to 98s. 6d., good to fine bold 104s. 6d. to 106d., peaberry 104s. to 106s. per cwt. The sales of other East India include 73 bags Singapore mixed brown at 87s. 6d., and 100 bags Indian Manila at 96s. 6d. per cwt.

SUGAR.

The low point to which prices of West India has declined has attracted the attention of exporters, as well as the home trade, and the increased demand being freely met, a larger business has resulted, prices closing firmer. The principal transactions on the spot consist of fine Java, for which very low rates have been accepted, of 2,220 baskets in auction, import 1874, 1,715 baskets sold, good grainy yellow No. 14 and 14½ at 22s. 6d. to 23s., chiefly the latter price, low white grainy at 24s., grey at 22s. Since then there has been more inquiry, and about 2,000 tons have been sold by private contract, chiefly fine No. 14 to 15½ at 23s. to 24s. The demand for Manila has been limited, but prices are without further change. About 22,000 bags good fair clayed have been quitted at 16s. 6d. per cwt.

COTTON.—Little alteration has taken place in this market, and although slight fluctuations have occurred, closing quotations are very similar to those given a fortnight ago. On the spot a somewhat slow, but steady, demand has prevailed, and a fair business has been done. The floating transactions continue limited, consisting chiefly of Tinnivelly, which closes at 5½d. for good fair.

CHINA MATTING.—At public sale 998 rolls ex Galatea, from Canton, were all sold, fancy size 4/4 and 5/4 at 29s. to 31s. 6d., chiefly red check 6/4 to 4/4 at 23s. 6d. for common to 36s. for fine, white 4/4 to 6/4 at 21s. to 30s. per roll.

COIR GOODS.—The public sales of Yarn have gone off slowly, and common dholla were cheaper, good to fine selling rather dearer. Cochon Fibre sold readily at full rates; Ceylon without change. Supplies of Rope continue much in excess of requirements, and prices in most instances are again lower.

COCOANUT OIL.—Cochin has been in only moderate request; 50 hogsheads fine sold at £42, since when 200 tons changed hands at a price kept secret. Ceylon has continued firm, and a fair quantity has found

buyers, old in pipes at £38 and in hogsheads at £38 5s., new in pipes at £38 5s. and puncheons and hogsheads at £38 10s.; 25 tons June shipment sold at £38 5s.; of 258 casks offered by auction 38 pipes sold at £38, 28 puncheons at £38, and 69 hogsheads fair to good at £38 to £38 5s. per ton.

CUTCH continues very quiet. In auction 800 boxes fine Pegue (Cock Brand) were bought in at 27s. per cwt.

CAMPOR.—Market firm, but little done; about 200 cases China sold within the past day or two at 70s. per cwt.

COLOMBO ROOT has been quiet but steady; of 32 bags offered over two-thirds sold at 22s. to 22s. 6d. for fair quality.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD steady; at auction 6 cases sold; lump good at £6 10s. to £7 17s. 6d. for fair part dull, to good bright.

EBONY.—At auction 32 tons (80 logs) Ceylon were bought in at £20.

ESSENTIAL OILS.—Aniseed quiet; small sales at previous value; 10 cases at auction retired. Cassia easier; about 50 cases sold at 4s. 2d. to 4s. 3d. on spot, and 4s. for arrival. Nutmeg steady; 15 cases at auction retired. Cinnamon quiet, 3 cases leaf retired. Citronelle firm and higher; about 180 cases changed hands at 1¼d. to 1½d., and none offered at auction. Lemon Grass has been rather more inquired for, and about 70 cases have changed hands at 2½d.; and of 45 cases at auction 5 cases sold at 2½d., at which there are further sellers.

GALLS have been very quiet in consequence of the recent advance in price; a few cases have been placed privately at 75s. per cwt.

GALENGAL ROOT has slightly declined; 30 bales have been sold by auction at 20s. per cwt. for fair quality.

GUTTAPERCHA continues extremely dull.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Siam steady, and 3 cases offered were retired. Sumatra steady; of 21 cases, two-thirds sold at £8 5s. for fair seconds, and £5 good thirds. Copal quiet, with scarcely a transaction; 44 cases offered were retired, and of further lots brought forward yesterday 35 cases Manila sold at 29s. for good fair hard, and 49s. to 50s. for fine. Damar firmly held and little offering; of 110 cases, one-fourth sold at 50s. for good a little dull; small sales of fine Batavia at 62s. 6d. Gambooge quiet but firmly held; 27 cases offered retired.

GAMBIER.—There has been a good demand for block, and as supplies have been scarce a further advance has been obtained, but transactions both on the spot are unimportant, small lots having been sold at 29s. to 30s. per cwt. For arrival 200 tons (including 50 tons per Lord of the Isles) have been sold, June sailing at 27s. per steamer, at 27s. 4½d. ex-ship. At auction 26 bales block sold at 29s. 6d., and 276 bales cubes rather blocky at 37s. 6d. to 38s.

HEMP.—There is little disposition to buy Manila on previous terms, and as holders are not pressing sellers, business has been unimportant. At auction 13 bales fine quality sold at £39 5s.

HAIR, &c.—11 cases drafted China Horse bought in at 4s., except 2 cases, which sold at 2s. to 3s.; 15 cases ditto Tails bought in at 2s. 3d. also 110 cases China bristles at 2s. to 5s. 9d. per lb.

HORNS.—The public sales embrace 49 tons Siam Buffalo, which were only partly sold at 42s. 6d. to 43s. per cwt. for Horns averaging 734 to 643 to a ton, being rather over the previous value.

INDIARUBBER.—The market is dull. Business has been done in Borneo at 1s. 2½d.

JAPAN WAX has been more inquired for, and about 1,200 boxes have changed hands privately at 49s. to 53s. for yellowish to fine; at auction of 100 boxes half sold at 51s. 6d. for good, and at a subsequent sale (yesterday) of 264 cases offered 200 cases good small squares (import 1873) sold at 51s. 6d., landing weights.

MUSK.—The sales have embraced 38 caddies Tonquin, of which two-thirds sold, good and fair selected well-shaped pods slightly damp at 42s.; rough and bally, 15s. 6d. to 17s. 6d.; wet pickings, 19s. 6d.; 12 caddies Yunnan sold at 36s. to 37s.; 17 tins, &c., grain, part sold at 45s. to 50s. per oz. for fair and good.

PLUMBAGO.—At auction of 367 barrels Ceylon only 80 barrels sold at former prices, middling lump at 15s., fair chips 10s., dust 8s. 9d. per cwt.

PEPPER.—Black has been quiet, and is slightly easier, with moderate private business in Singapore at 5½d., and Penang at 4½d. to 4¾d.; and at auction, of 6,758 bags offered, only about 700 bags sold, Singapore at 5½d., West Coast Penang at 4¾d. to 4½d., grey 4½d. Afloat, no business of importance. White at auction was dull, and lower prices were accepted; of 2,878 bags offered barely one-third sold, Singapore fair at 8½d. down to 7¾d., good 8½d. to 8¾d. per lb.

RICE.—The market has remained depressed, and as the demand for floating cargoes has been languid, a further reduction of about 3d. per cwt. has been established, Rangoon selling at 7s. 10½d., Bassein at 7s. 4½d., and Necransie at 7s. 3d., or lower prices than for many years past. On the spot larger sales of soft grain have been made at a similar decline, but Bengal and Madras are scarce, and prices are steady. The sales on the spot comprise white Bengal at 11s. 3d. new Necransie per Northbrook at 7s. 3d., new Rangoon per John Bertram at 8s. ex quay, ditto per Uncle Toby, in dock, at 7s. 9d. ex ship, and 5,000 bags ditto, being the remainder of that cargo, at 7s. 10½d. quay terms.

RATTANS.—At auction 16,000 bundles (47 tons) Penang sold, chiefly damaged at £25 15s. to £30 2s. 6d. Of 6,042 bundles (11 tons) damaged Singapore only partly sold at £15. 1,487 bundles (11 tons) Rangoon damaged all sold at £14 2s. 6d. to £14 5s. per ton.

RHUBARB.—China remains steady but quiet. At public sale 23 cases offered, half sold at 1s. 9d. for fair dull-coated heavy sun-dried root, two-thirds good even pinky fracture, rest dark and spongy.

SAPANWOOD.—Of 15 tons offered 4 tons damaged Ceylon sold at £12 per ton.

SAGO is about 1s. per cwt. lower, and of 2,880 bags brought to public sale over half sold at 17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d. for fair to good small, and 16s. to 16s. 6d. medium and large. Flour firm but quiet; 500 bags fine Borneo were bought in at 14s., but partly since sold thereat; 177 bags damaged Singapore withdrawn.

SPICES.—Cassia Lignea: The demand has been stronger, and prices close 3s. higher, 2,500 cases unworked having been sold at 56s. to 57s. But at auction 720 boxes unworked, imported 1872 and 1873, went off slowly, and only 150 boxes sold at 57s. Cassia Buds: 100 boxes China

bought in at £5 5s. *Cinnamon*: Of 29 bales Ceylon only 8 bales sold, second sort at 2s. 5d., fourth at 1s. 9d., the remainder bought in at 2s. to 2s. 9d. *Chips*: 80 bags Ceylon bought in at 4d. *Clones*: Of 13 cases Penang 8 cases fine sold at 2s. 2½d. *Nutmegs*: The good supply of 43 cases 102 boxes fresh Penang went off slowly, and 35 cases 50 boxes sold at a decline of 1d. per lb., fine bold average 66 nuts to the lb. at 4s., 70's at 3s. 9d., 77 to 74's at 3s. 5d. to 3s. 7d., 83's at 3s. 6d., 126's at 2s. 8d., limed 164's at 1s. 6d., the remainder bought in, chiefly limed 135 to 160's at 2s. to 2s. 4d.; of 17 cases 8 casks limed Java, 6 cases 2 casks sold, 87's at 3s. 2d., 104's at 2s. 8d. to 2s. 9d. Of 25 boxes defective broken Java 6 boxes sold at 10d. *Mace* has been very steady, and of 36 cases offered the bulk sold; middling to good at 2s. 2d. to 2s. 9d.; middling reddish 1s. 11d. to 2s.; pickings 1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d.

SHELLS.—The periodical sales were held on the 28th ult. *Tortoise*: Large supplies went off flatly, and East India was only partially disposed of at previous rates; 23 cases (about 980lb) Singapore, &c., sold, common shell at 8s. to 11s. 6d., middling to good clean do. 14s. 6d. to 18s. 6d., one lot fine 20s. *Mother-o'-Pearl*: The moderate quantity of Bombay met a good demand, and sold at an advance of 5s. per cwt. All other kinds, however, were unusually difficult of sale, and only a small portion found buyers; of 9 cases Manila 1 case small sold at £10 2s. 6d. *Ear Shells*: There was much less demand, and the large supply offered, consisting of 171 cases 827 bales 177 bags and 20 tons loose Japan Silver was almost all bought in or withdrawn, except about 30 cases 85 bags which found buyers, untrimmed medium £10, inferior trimmed £20, good do. £35 per ton. *Green Snail Shells* met a moderate demand, and of 240 baskets and about 3,000 loose (together 27,750 shells) 140 baskets sold at rather easier prices, very small at 2d., small 2½d. to 3½d., one lot good 4½d., medium 4½d., good bold at 8½d. to 9d. each.

STICKLAC shows a slight decline; at public sales 211 cases were mostly retired, but the bulk subsequently sold, together with 200 and 300 cases privately, at 95s. per cwt. for good quality.

STAR ANNISEEDS have been steady, small sales of fair quality but broken being effected at £5 16s. per cwt.

SOY has been firm; small business doing in China at 2s. 2d. per gallon.

TAPIOCA.—Market steady; and of 3,336 bags offered, one-third sold at 2½d. to 2½d. for good bold; 2½d. to 2½d. fair and good small Flake, and 20s. 6d. fine small, and 20s. Bullets.

TRY has been irregular; Straits was sold as high as £87 and declined to £85, it is now £86 spot. The sale in Holland 22,900 Slabs, went at an average price of 52½ guilders, equal to £93 10s., London. As the deliveries from London this month are over 1,200 tons, we shall probably have a firm market. Current quotations:—Straits on the spot £86, afloat £85 to £86; Banca £91; Billiton £86 per ton.

VERMILION has been steady; of 10 boxes China at auction, a few sold at 5s. 6d., also a few cases privately at same figure.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

| Date. | Ship. | Captain. | From | At |
|---------|------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|
| Sep. 21 | Cesira | Savignone | Akyab | Havre |
| 21 | Lycka Till | Rinesi | Basscin | Bremen |
| 22 | Delaide | Capuro | Rangoon | London |
| 22 | Guinevere | Keith | Akyab | Do. |
| 22 | Wistawarf | Keller | Do. | Falmouth |
| 22 | Dora | Niseburg | Rangoon | Hamburg |
| 22 | Lofvald | Stephenson | Do. | Rotterdam |
| 22 | Geffe | Maxin | Do. | Bremen |
| 23 | Proserpina | Ivancich | Singapore | London |
| 23 | Dunelm | Phillips | Colombo | Do. |
| 23 | Armanella | Garrett | Rangoon | Liverpool |
| 23 | Sollicito | Marcone | Akyab | London |
| 23 | Mary Ann | Walenius | Rangoon | Falmouth |
| 23 | Belle Morse | Whitmore | Do. | Do. |
| 23 | Caroline | Calder | Do. | Do. |
| 23 | Battistina | Revello | Basscin | Do. |
| 23 | Royal Visitor | Roberts | Maulmain, for S'land. | Do. |
| 23 | Apennino | Gorgino | Rangoon | Queenstown |
| 23 | Serra ed Elena | Serra | Do. | Do. |
| 23 | Idella | Berry | Samarang | Do. |
| 23 | Our Annie | Eden | Singapore | New York |
| 23 | Johanna Maria | Gustavus | Batavia, for Rotterdam | Deal |
| 23 | Amaranth | Hughes | Rangoon | Falmouth |
| 24 | Caterina G. | Maggiolo | Basscin | Do. |
| 24 | Pride of England | Nash | Rangoon | Liverpool |
| 24 | Princess Eugenie | Smith | Do. | Queenstown |
| 24 | St. Bartholomew | Schiaffino | Akyab | Do. |
| 24 | Gateshead | Evans | Rangoon | Hamburg |
| 24 | Peter Rickmers | Jaburg | Akyab | Bremen |
| 24 | Jose Maria | Castello | Rangoon | Falmouth |
| 24 | Tromp | Hoekstra | Banjoewangie | Amsterdam |
| 24 | Martaban (s.) | Barlow | Rangoon | Liverpool |
| 24 | Ratoc Bassi | Visman | Macassar | Amsterdam |
| 27 | Krimpen v.d. Lek | List | Tjilatjap | Rotterdam |
| 27 | Liburna | Mosfield | Rangoon | Do. |
| 27 | Semantha | Morisey | Do. | Falmouth |
| 27 | Syskonen | — | Basscin | Do. |
| 27 | Hawkhope | Felt | Java | Greenock |
| 27 | W. G. Russel | Owen | Akyab | Falmouth |
| 27 | Fede Speranza | Dassa | Rangoon | Do. |
| 27 | Argo | Grau | Basscin | Do. |
| 27 | Bjorgvin | Olsen | Samarang | Leith |
| 27 | Cleopatra | Doane | Manila | New York |
| 28 | Wild Duck | Jones | Colombo | London |
| 28 | Nor Wester | Burgess | Basscin | Liverpool |
| 28 | W. D. Seed | Procter | Rangoon | Do. |
| 28 | Leon (s.) | Ridge | Manila | Do. |
| 28 | Sea Gull (s.) | Ridge | Foochow | London |
| 28 | Glenroy (s.) | Hogg | Hong Kong | Do. |
| 28 | Egeria (s.) | Eutwistle | Foochow | Do. |
| 28 | Glengyle (s.) | Kayle | Shanghai | Do. |
| 30 | Boldon | Laabrooke | Singapore | Do. |
| 30 | Hylton Castle | Scott | Do. | Do. |

DEPARTURES.

| Date. | Ship. | Captain. | For | From |
|---------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|
| Sep. 22 | Bay of Bengal | Jones | Rangoon | Glasgow |
| 22 | Moltke | Hauck | Do. | Cardiff |
| 22 | Lizzie Barry | Claxton | Singapore | Sunderland |
| 22 | Venice (s.) | Watson | China and Japan | London |
| 22 | Coldingham | Bice | Colombo | Do. |
| 22 | Anna Bertha | Kearn | Singapore | Cardiff |
| 22 | Marie | Petersen | Manila | Hamburg |
| 22 | Laurens Coster | Marmelstein | Sourabaya | Flushing* |
| 22 | Laurens Coster | De Goode | Atchin | Do. |
| 22 | Theresa | Runge | Rangoon | Liverpool |
| 22 | Norma | Taylor | Singapore | Hamburg |
| 22 | Theresa | Meyer | Rangoon | Do. |
| 22 | Yrurac Bat (s.) | Larrinaga | Manila | Liverpool |
| 27 | Noach I. | Kruyt | Batavia | Rotterdam |
| 27 | Emma | Wiebenga | Samarang | Do. |
| 27 | Glaucus (s.) | Jackson | Shanghai | Liverpool |
| 28 | Merkara (s.) | Ballantine | Colombo | London |
| 28 | Sir Harry Parkes | Chapman | Hong Kong | Do. |

* After repairing.

See Shipping Postscript and Correspondents' Letters.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Hiogo: Bengal, Montgomeryshire, Burmese. For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Cawdor Castle. For Batavia: Fiery Cross.

SAILING VESSELS.—For Yokohama and Hiogo: Ullock, Banda, Tamessa. For Hong Kong: Carricks, Belted Will, Earl Dalhousie. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Sir Robert Sale, Professor Van der Boon Mesch. For Singapore: Mallard. For Penang: Ocean Rover. For Colombo: Felixstowe, Hawk, Persian Empire.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Deucalion (str.), Anchises (str.), Ajax (str.). For Manila: Yrurac Bat (str.). For Batavia: Loch Doon. For Singapore: Batrak (str.), Willy Rickmers, Polynesia.

At GLASGOW.—For Hong Kong: Fung-Shui (str.). For Singapore: Ione.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth.

Per STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—To Yokohama: 55s. weight, 55s. meat. To Hiogo: 55s. weight, 60s. meat. To Nagasaki: 60s. weight, 65s. meat. To Shanghai: 45s. weight, 40s. meat. To Hankow: 60s. weight, 55s. meat. To Hong Kong: 45s. weight, 40s. meat. To Singapore: 45s. weight, 35s. meat. To Penang: 45s. weight, 35s. meat. To Colombo: 35s. weight or meat. To Batavia: 60s. meat. To Samarang: 65s. meat. To Sourabaya: 70s. meat.

Per SAILING VESSELS.—To Yokohama: 40s. weight, 30s. meat. To Hiogo: 40s. weight or meat. To Shanghai: 27s. 6d. weight, 25s. meat. To Hong Kong: 27s. 6d. weight, 25s. meat. To Singapore: 25s. weight, 20s. meat. To Penang: 25s. weight, 20s. meat. To Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: 20s. to 25s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meat. To Colombo: 25s. weight, 22s. 6d. meat.

The current quotations for coal, &c., are as follows:—From Wear or Tyne, per keel—To Yokohama: £32. To Shanghai: £30. To Hong Kong: £26. To Singapore: £20. To Penang: £23, f.c. To Colombo: £23. To Galle: £23. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 23s.

From Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, per ton.—To Yokohama: 32s. 6d. To Shanghai: 30s. To Hong Kong: 27s. To Manila: 24s. To Singapore: 18s. To Colombo: 21s. To Galle: 20s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 23s.

From Birkenhead, per ton.—To Hong Kong: 25s. To Shanghai: 28s. To Singapore: 14s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 20s. To Galle: 18s.

SPOKEN.

IPHIGENIA, Hamburg to Hong Kong, Sept. 16, 46 N., 11.30 W. JACOB ROGGEVEEN, Amsterdam to Batavia, Sept. 22, 49.30 N., 5.53 W.

LAJU, Newport to Hong Kong, —, 6.34 N., 24.22 W.

HOPEWELL, London to Hong Kong, Aug. 21, 8.31 N., 23.59 W.

Y.N.D.R., Bordeaux to Batavia, Aug. 21, 13 N., 27 W.

GOLDEN STATE, New York to Shanghai, Aug. 6, 8.15 N., 33.27 W.

MARGUERITE, Newport to Singapore, Aug. 11, 14.50 N., 30.40 W.

TITANIA, London to Shanghai, Sept. 6, 51 N., 38 W.

ALBERT VICTOR, London to Shanghai, Aug. 14, 2.50 N., 23.44 W.

NAHOR, Cardiff to Hong Kong, Aug. 16, 9 N., 25 W.

CASUALTIES.

BATAVIA, SEPT. 28.—The Derwent, from Rio Janeiro to Anjer, in ballast, struck off Java "First Joint," and has become a total wreck. She sunk almost immediately. Nothing has been saved from the wreck, except a boat. Crew all saved.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SUEZ.—Arrived Sept. 22, Koning der Nederlanden, from Batavia, and left for Nieuwe Diep; 28, Egean, Ulysses, both from China, and proceeded for London.

MILFORD, SEPT. 27.—The No. 1 (str.), Louga, from Liverpool for Manila, has put in here with compasses and rudder defective, and escapement of steam from tube.

SAIGON, AUG. 25.—The master (Thomas Barber) of the Aurora Australis, of Sunderland, died at sea of cholera July 27; and the master (Wm. Brain) of the Argo, of Liverpool, died in hospital here of Java fever, Aug. 11. The mates of the two vessels, possessing masters' certificates, have taken charge.

ANTWERP, SEPT. 27.—Advices from Samarang state that the Petronelle, from Rotterdam for Samarang, which stranded in Bali Straits, and was afterwards condemned at Banjoewangie, had been sold for 9,950 florins.

OVERLAND ROUTE via MARSEILLES and SUEZ CANAL.—MESSAGERIES MARITIMES DE FRANCE, 97, CANNON-STREET.—FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS LEAVE MARSEILLES (via S.C.), ON THE FOLLOWING SUNDAYS, at 10 A.M.—

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|---|---|
| Ironadddy ... Oct. 10 | For | { | Naples, Port Said, Aden, |
| Sindh ... Oct. 24 | | | Galle, Singapore, Batavia, Saigon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Yokohama. |
| Mei Kong ... Nov. 7 | | | |
| Amazon ... Nov. 21 | | | |
| Anadiv ... Dec. 5 | | | |

The Steamers of the 10th October, 7th November, and 5th December connect at Galle with the Steamers for Pondicherry, Madras, and Calcutta.

The Steamers of the 24th October and 31st November connect at Aden with the Steamers for Réunion and Mauritius.

For Alexandria and Naples ... Every Thursday (noon)
 „ Constantinople ... „ Saturday, 5 P.M.
 „ Algiers ... „ „

The Company's Weekly Steamers to Alexandria connect at Alexandria with the English Mail Steamers from Brindisi to Bombay.

For Passage Rates or information, apply at the Company's London Head Office, 97, Cannon-street, E.C.; or to the West-end Sub-Agency, 51, Pall-mall, S.W.; also to G. and H. FLETCHER and Co., Liverpool; or to SMITH and Co., Rotterdam; also at the Offices of the Messageries Maritimes in Paris, Lyons, Bordeaux, and Marseilles.

* Passengers enstowed of Suez securing their Berths in London are entitled to the conveyance of their luggage free to Marseilles.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, August 30, 1851.
 PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,500,000.
 RESERVED FUNDS, £500,000.

The Corporation grant Drafts, and negotiate or collect Bills payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Foochow, Hong Kong, Kandy, Madras, Mauritius, Melbourne, Point de Galle, Pondicherry, Port Elizabeth, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Tellicherry, and Yokohama on terms which may be ascertained at their Office. They also issue Circular Notes for the use of Travellers by the Overland Route.

They undertake the agency of parties connected with India and the Colonies, the purchase and sale of British and Foreign Securities, the custody of the same, the receipt of Interest, Dividends, Pay, Pensions, &c., and the effecting of remittances between the above-named Dependencies.

They also receive deposits of £100 and upwards for fixed periods, the terms for which may be ascertained on application at their Office.
 Office hours, Ten to Three; Saturdays, Ten to Two.
 Threadneedle-street London, 1875.

THE AGRA BANK (Limited).

Established in 1853.

CAPITAL, £1,000,000.

Head Office:—NICHOLAS-LANE, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON.

Branches in Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong.

Current accounts are kept at the Head Office on the terms customary with London Bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100. Deposits received for fixed periods on the following terms, viz.:—At 5 per cent. per annum, subject to twelve months' notice of withdrawal. For shorter periods deposits will be received on terms to be agreed upon. Bills issued at the current exchange of the day on any of the Branches of the Bank free of extra charge; and approved bills purchased or sent for collection. Sales and purchases effected in British and Foreign Securities, in East India Stock and Loans, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Interest drawn, and Army, Navy, and Civil Pay and Pensions, realised. Every other description of Banking Business and Money Agency, British and Indian, transacted.

J. THOMSON, Chairman.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

Incorporated by National Decrees of 7th and 8th of March, 1848, and by Imperial Decree of 20th July, 1854, and 31st December, 1866.

Recognised by the International Convention of 30th April, 1862.

CAPITAL, fully paid up, £3,200,000.

Reserved Fund ... £30,000,000 ... £800,000.

HEAD OFFICE:—14, Rue Bergère, Paris.

AGENCIES AT—Lyons, Marseilles, Nantes, Mulhouse, Roubaix (France), Brussels (Belgium), Alexandria (Egypt), Calcutta, Bombay, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Saigon (Cochin China), Bourbon (Réunion), and Yokohama (Japan).

LONDON BANKERS.—Bank of England and Union Bank of London.

LONDON AGENCY.—14, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

MANAGER.—Theodor Dronet.

SUB-MANAGER.—H. Druval.

The London Agency grants Drafts and Letters of Credit, and purchases or collects Bills payable at the above-named places.

The Agency will conduct Banking business of every description with the Continent, India, China, &c., upon terms to be ascertained at the Office.

Office hours, 10 to 4; Saturdays, 0 to 2.

T. W. JACKSON,
COMMISSION AGENT
SAN FRANCISCO.

STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE. REDUCED PREMIUMS.

CHINA AND JAPAN.—The Directors of the STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY have reduced the rates of premium to be hereafter charged for residence in certain parts of China and Japan, and full particulars as to terms, regulations, and conditions may be had at the offices of the Company.

Local Boards and Agencies in India, China, and all the colonies.

Moderate premiums, at rates suited to each climate.

Immediate reduction to home rates on return to Europe or other temperate climate.

Loans advanced to civilians and military officers.

The next division of profits will be made among policies in existence at 15th Nov., 1875, and all who assure before that date will rank for profits on that occasion.

Annual income of the Company upwards of £700,000 sterling. Invested capital and accumulations upwards of £4,500,000.

H. JONES WILLIAMS, Gen. Sec. for England
 82, King William-street, E.C.

JOHN O'HAGAN, Res. Sec., West-end Office
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the FOURTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of this Company will be held on MONDAY, the 11th October, at Two o'clock in the Afternoon, at the CITY TERMINUS HOTEL, CANNON-STREET, LONDON, when the Reports and Accounts for the half-year ending 30th June, 1875, will be presented, and the ordinary business of the Company transacted.

And Notice is Also Given, That the Registers of Transfers will be Closed from the 8th to the 14th October, both days inclusive.

By order.

GEORGE LYONS, Secretary.

No. 66, Old Broad-street, London, E.C., 1st Oct., 1875.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That an INTERIM DIVIDEND of 3s. 6d. per share, free of income-tax, for the quarter ending the 30th June last, will be PAID on and after the 14th October next.

And Notice is Also Given, That the Register of Transfers will be Closed from the 7th to the 14th October, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board.

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The Transfer Books will be closed from Wednesday the 13th October, to Wednesday, the 20th October, both days inclusive.

By order of the Court.

WM. CHAS. MULLINS, Secretary.
Hatton-court, Threadneedle-street,
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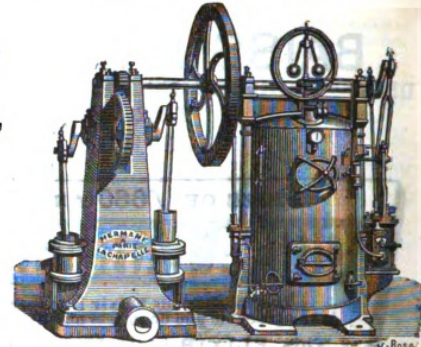
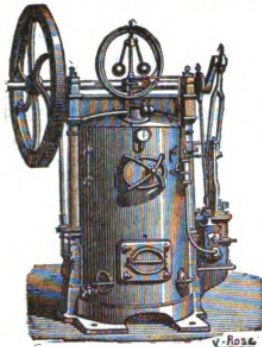
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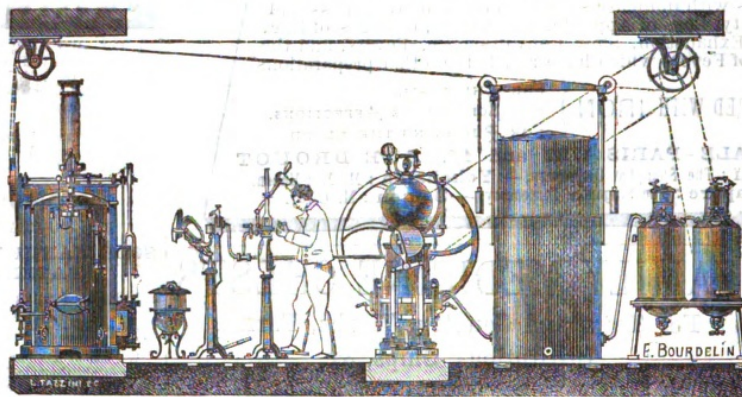
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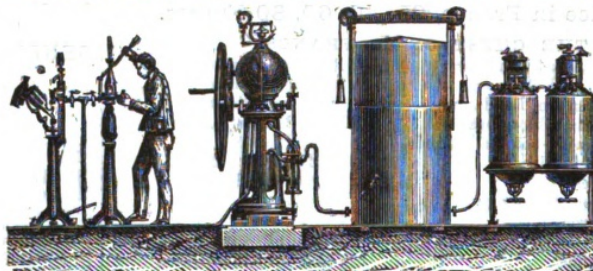
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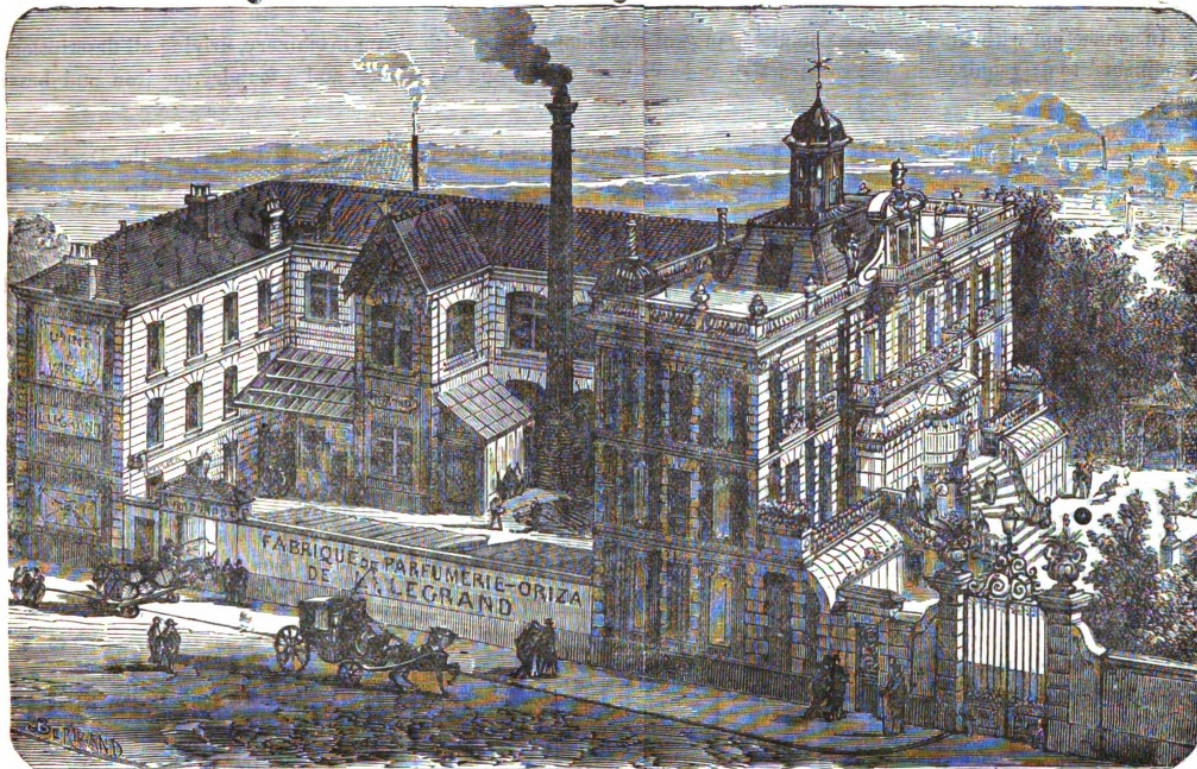
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 **GLEN LINE OF INDIA, CHINA, AND JAPAN STEAMSHIPS.**—The underrated powerful Clyde-built BOATS, specially adapted for the India, China, and Japan trade, are intended to be despatched on their advertised dates for SINGAPORE, HONG KONG, and SHANGHAI, taking goods at through rates for SAIGON, YOKOHAMA, NAGASAKI, and HIOGO:—

| Steamers. | Class. | Tons. | Horse-power. | Date of Sailing. |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------------|------------------|
| Glengyle | ... | 100 A1 | 1,676 | 300 Oct. 15 |
| Glenroy | ... | 100 A1 | 2,121 | 250 To follow |
| Glenlyon | ... | 100 A1 | 2,119 | 275 To follow |
| Glenartney | ... | 100 A1 | 2,016 | 330 To follow |
| Glenearn | ... | 100 A1 | 2,130 | 330 To follow |
| Glenfalloch | ... | 100 A1 | 2,126 | 275 To follow |
| Glenfinlas | ... | 100 A1 | 2,130 | 330 To follow |
| Glenegles | ... | 100 A1 | 2,130 | 300 New boat |

For terms of Freight and Passage apply to MCGREGOR, Gow, and Co., No. 1, East India-avenue, London.

Steam via Suez Canal. To sail on the 25th Oct.

 **FOR SINGAPORE, HONG KONG, and SHANGHAI.** The splendid full-powered screw steamer CHEOPS, 100 A1, 984 tons register, 150 horse power nominal, S. JARMAN, Commander; South West India Docks. This steamer has had her boilers and machinery thoroughly overhauled; is now in dock ready to receive cargo.


For Freight, apply to SHAW, WILLIAMS, and Co., 9, Fenchurch-street, London, E.C.

 **FOR HONG KONG,** with despatch, the well-known clipper BELTED WILL, A1 15 years, 812 tons register, J. BRANTHWAITE, Commander; South West India Docks.

For Freight apply to SHAW, WILLIAMS, and Co., 9, Fenchurch-street, London, E.C.

 **SHORT SEA ROUTE** to AUSTRALIA, for First-class passengers only, via Marseilles and Singapore, by STEAMERS of the EASTERN and AUSTRALIAN MAIL STEAM COMPANY (Limited), under Postal Contract with the Queensland Government, leaving every four weeks.

Offices, No. 34, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

 **FOR CHINA AND JAPAN.**—The following splendid first-class STEAMERS will be despatched as under:—

| Port. | Ship. | Class. | Dock. | To sail. |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|----------|----------|
| Pen., Sing., Hg. K., and Yoko. | Montgomeryshire, s.s. | 100 A1 | S.W.I.D. | Oct. 4 |
| Do. | Burnese, s.s. | 100 A1 | S.W.I.D. | Oct. 23 |

For Freight or Passage apply to NORRIS and JOYNER, 126, Bishopsgate street Within, E.C.

Steam via the Suez Canal.

 **TO PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONG KONG, YOKOHAMA, and HIOGO,** taking cargo for transshipment to Java, Australia, &c., at through rates at shippers' risk, last shipping day 4th Oct.: the favourite full-powered screw steamer MONTGOMERYSHIRE, 100 A1, 1,751 tons gross, 1,146 tons net register, 200-horse power nominal; GEORGE BUTLIN, Commander; South West India Dock. This magnificent steamer, built on the Clyde in 1873, has proved herself well adapted for the China trade. She has elegant and spacious accommodation for saloon passengers replete with every comfort.

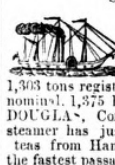
For Freight or Passage apply to the Owners, D. J. JENKINS and Co., 17, Lime-street, E.C.; or to NORRIS and JOYNER, 126, Bishopsgate-street Within, E.C. (corner of Cornhill).

 **GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, and CO.,** will despatch the following high classed SCREW STEAMSHIPS as under:—

| Ports. | Ship. | Class. | Tons. | Dock. | Sailing. |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--------|-------------|---------|----------|
| Pen., Sing., Hg. K., and Japan | Bengal... | — | 2026 V.L.D. | Oct. 10 | |
| | Genoa... | 100 A1 | 1900 V.L.D. | Oct. 23 | |

For Freight or Passage, apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, and Co., 1, Fenwick-street, Liverpool; Bridge-water-buildings, Albert-square, Manchester; 51, Pall-mall, S.W., and 109, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.


Steam via the Suez Canal.

 **FOR YOKOHAMA and HIOGO** calling at PENANG, SINGAPORE, and HONG KONG, the splendid screw steamship, BENGAL, 1,303 tons register, 2,036 tons gross register, 275 h. p. nominal, 1,375 h. p. nominal, 1,375 h. p. effective; A. DOUGLAS, Commander; Victoria Docks. This fine steamer has just discharged a cargo of new season's teas from Hankow splendid order, making one of the fastest passages of the season.

For Freight or Passage apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, and Co., 1, Fenwick-street, Liverpool; Bridge-water-buildings, Albert-square, Manchester; 51, Pall-mall, S.W., and 109, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

 **CASTLE LINE** of STEAM PACKETS from LONDON (via the Suez Canal) for SINGAPORE, HONG KONG, and SHANGHAI, and taking goods at through rates for Java, Japan, and Eastern Australian Ports. Last shipping day 4th Oct., the magnificent Clyde-built steamship CAWDOR CASTLE, 2,173 tons 100 A1, 300-h.p. nominal, J. GREIG, Commander, to load in the South West India Docks. The attention of shippers is directed to this splendid steamer.

For Freight apply to THOMAS SKINNER and Co., 5, East India-avenue, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

 **FOR Tanjong Pagar, SINGAPORE.**—The following VESSELS are now on the berth in LONDON.


| Tons. | Brokers. | To Sail. |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Cawdor Castle, s.s. | 2,173 Thos. Skinner & Co. | Oct. 4 |
| Gahaca, s.s. | 1,290 Robertson & Co. | Oct. 30 |
| Montgomeryshire, s.s. | 1,751 Norris & Joyner | Oct. 4 |

LIVERPOOL.
Anchises, s.s. ... Alfred Holt ... Oct. 7


GLASGOW.
Tone ... 520 T. Skinner & Co. [Oct. —

Scale of wharf and dock charges may be had on application to the Company's London Agents, Messrs. MACTAGGART, TIDMAN, and Co., 34, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

With quick despatch.

 **FOR YOKOHAMA and HIOGO,** the well-known China clipper BANDA, A1 13 years 481 tons register; — Commander, West India Docks. This fine vessel is confidently recommended to shippers, and has excellent accommodation for passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to J. D. WILLIS and Co., 115, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

 **FOR YOKOHAMA AND HIOGO DIRECT,** the favourite China clipper TAMESA, A1 16 years, 713 tons register, South West India Docks; F. J. GREEN, Commander.

For Freight or Passage apply to JOHN WILLIAMSON York Chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester; or to ROBERTSON and Co., 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill, E.C.

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COMMISSION MERCHANTS, AGENTS,
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SHANGHAI, CHINA.

LONDON AGENCY,
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